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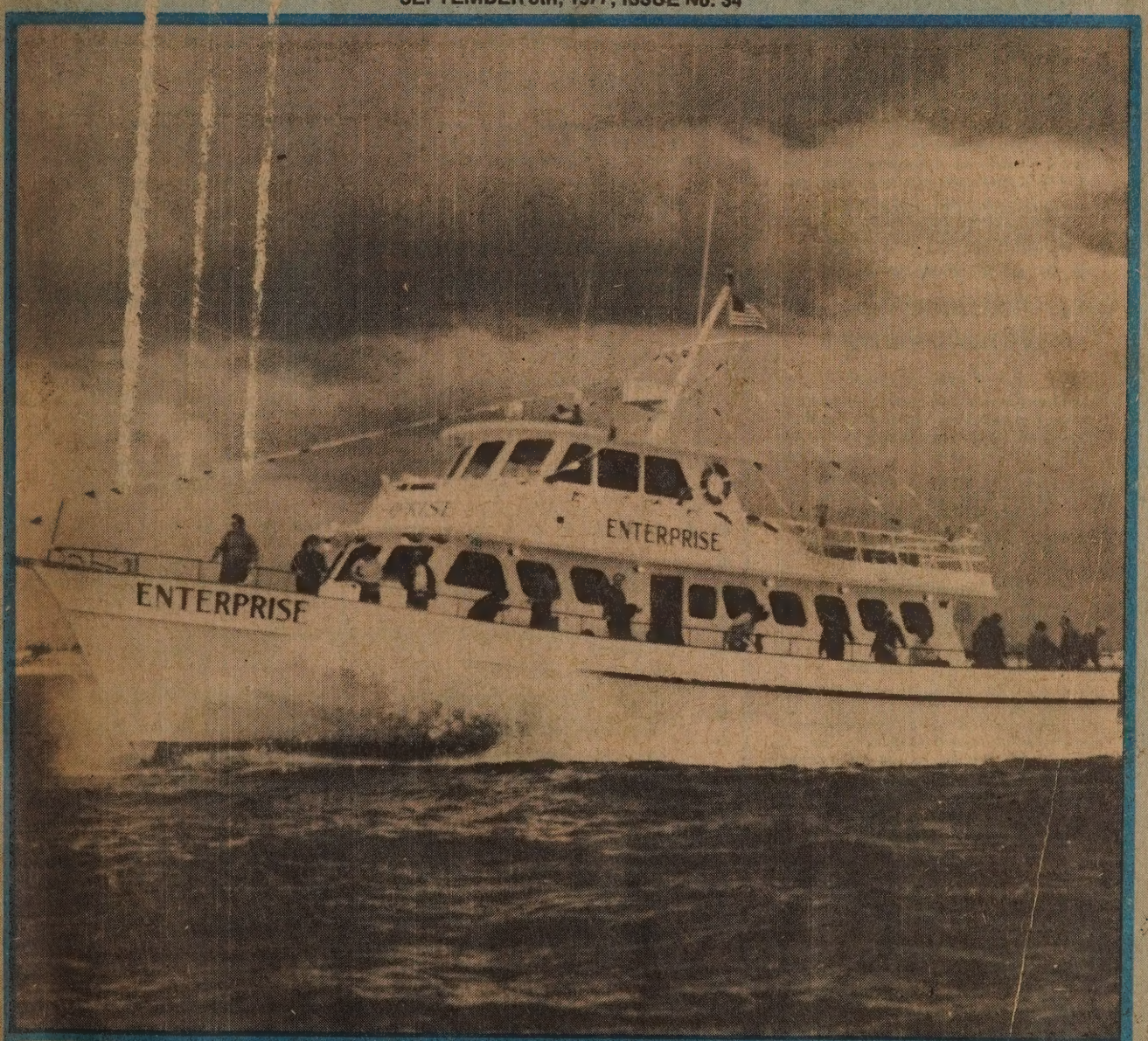
The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

SEPTEMBER 8th, 1977, ISSUE No. 34



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The Long Island FISHERMAN

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COMING NEXT WEEK:

Early Fall FLOUNDER

About the Cover—

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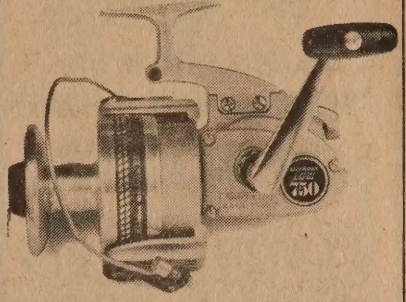

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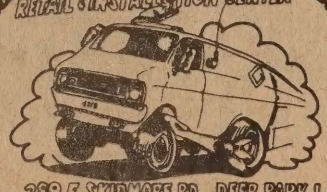

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EDITORIAL

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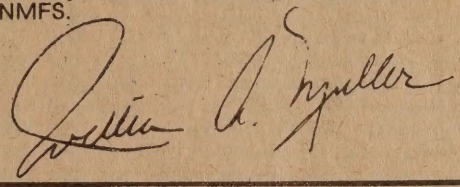
fishermen responding to the plans.

When one realizes that it will be a year and perhaps two years before the appointed Regional Fisheries Management Councils have a chance to review all of the management plans and offer final plans, the posture of The National Marine Fisheries Service becomes totally unacceptable! We have no doubt that The Regional Fisheries Management Councils will be effective and responsive to the needs of our saltwater fishermen because the councils are made up of people like you and I who have fought for the 200 Mile Limit legislation and have no intention of seeing it die!

We have pointed out before that the passage of a Bill into Law is not the final step. We cannot afford to sit back and pat ourselves on the back and wait for the miracle of fruition! Any law, no matter how good, is meaningless without effective implementation. It is the opinion of The Fisherman that the 200 Mile Limit legislation is not being implemented with proper response to citizens. It is our opinion that the present preliminary management proposals are often lacking and scientifically unsound! It is our opinion that The National Marine Fisheries Service is going through the motions of the law without really caring about the final outcome, or the will of the people. We need our coastal fisheries! We need them now and we will need them even more in the decades to come. We cannot afford to give away this resource to foreign nations; we must use it in trade for other commodities that we need from abroad, such as oil! We must not turn our backs on our own commercial fishermen who labor unsuccessfully against a tide of technology and indifference. We cannot turn our backs against our sport fishermen, because they have a right to fish in the sea and a right to spend their money and leisure time as they see fit! We cannot turn our backs on the ecology of our ocean, because God has entrusted it to us! We need our oceans!

The Long Island Fisherman urges each of you to get a little angry. Don't let this important legislation slip away! Please write to your Congressmen and Senators today. Tell them what you have seen of the charade of the NMFS preliminary management plans and public hearings. Tell them that this was a law of the people and by the people, and that you demand that they look into how the law is being implemented by the NMFS.



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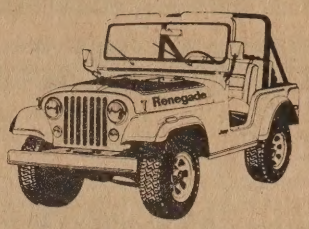

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The line you see is the line you control.

Pass It On...

SPIDERS EDUCATE FISHERMEN

How can the spider's unique web building skills benefit fishermen? The answer to that question promises to have profound effects on new fishing lines you'll soon be using.

To understand the technological significance, you must go back 40 years—to the time when chemists first discovered how to create a new "synthetic silk." Fishermen were quick to benefit from this development as these new synthetic molecules called NYLON were spun into fishing lines to replace the braided silk counterparts.

Sure, these first nylon monos weren't the ultimate. They were stiff and wiry—but they didn't rot and they were transparent.

Literally thousands of different kinds of nylons have subsequently been developed to replace cotton, jute, pig bristle, and other natural fibers and the markets they occupied. The search for a better nylon for monofilament fishing line continued.

Now, after a dozen years of research, a team of fishing scientists in Spirit Lake believe they have found the answer by going back to nature and the engineering solution nature uses for solving tough problems.

Their research led them to the unlikely field of entomology and the remarkable spider. Not well recognized, and totally baffling to the chemists, the spider has the incredible capacity to spin a web of a natural fiber not unlike the chemical structure of nylon. But a spider's silk is far stronger than any yet synthetized in a laboratory.

Some have tried to commercialize this fiber for applications such as the cross-hairs in microscopes and telescopic sights. It has been estimated that to produce a meager one pound per hour of spider's silk would require the sustained cooperative grunt of 670,000 spiders!

Aside from the production output problem, a spider factory would also have the logistic task of providing an ample menu of flies to feed their workers.

But, if you could convert this one pound of spider's silk into a one inch diameter line, you'd discover that it would have a break strength of more than 74 tons; that's 3X stronger than a one inch steel rope. Imagine the possibilities if you could make fishing line with this stuff—80 pound test with the diameter of 6!

But even more impressive is the spider's engineering abilities to utilize it's homemade nylon fibers. For the strong support strands of its web, it generates one formulation of natural nylon. For the sticky, elastic cross-member strands, it creates a different nylon formulation.

The spider routinely uses a principle that fishing line manufacturers have totally overlooked—that nylons can be tailored to perform specific functions, but more importantly, no one nylon can satisfy all needs.

The Trilene scientists applied the spider's engineering approach to their search for a better fishing line. The fishermen's engineering demands for southern bass fishing were distinctly different than those of the steelhead fishermen of the northwest. It was obvious that no one nylon could do the job. In fact, field studies confirmed that three distinctly different nylon monos would be needed to adequately match the diverse needs of today's sport fishermen.

Three new nylon monos were announced at this year's American Fishing Tackle Manufacturer's trade show in Kansas City. They represent the first of a new generation of nylon chemistry and philosophy patterned after nature's specialization approach. Someday chemists may even decode the mystery of how the spider spins its incredibly strong filament.

COD FISHERY CLOSED

Regional Director William Gordon announced that the season for the commercial cod fishery in areas of Georges Bank and southern New England will be terminated as of midnight (2400 hours), August 22, 1977.

Any U. S. commercial fishing vessel fishing in this area and departing port after the closure is effected, will be restricted in the amount of cod it has on board to 5510 pounds, or 10% by weight of all fish on board—whichever is greater. Vessels already at sea will not be subject to this restriction until they leave port on their next fishing trip.

Under the Fishery Management Plan for cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder, there was established a 20,000 metric ton commercial quota for cod in these areas and it has been determined that the U. S. share of the accumulative and estimated prospective 20,000 metric ton commercial quota has been reached. This 20,000 metric ton quota was originally assigned solely to U. S. vessels. However, the U.S.-Canadian Reciprocal Fisheries Agreement, signed into law by the President on July 26, 1977, allocated 3350 metric tons of this quota to Canadian fishing vessels. Accordingly, the U. S. quota was reduced by this Act to 16,650 metric tons. Canada announced closure of its directed cod fishery in this area on August 9 after 2430 metric tons of its 3350 metric ton quota were harvested, reserving the remainder for by-catch.

The New England Regional Fishery Management Council recommended the establishment of quotas for U. S. fishermen fishing for groundfish—specifically cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder. This plan, which was implemented by the Secretary of Commerce, recommended area and season restrictions, minimum size restrictions, gear restrictions, and incidental catch provisions, in addition to various quota

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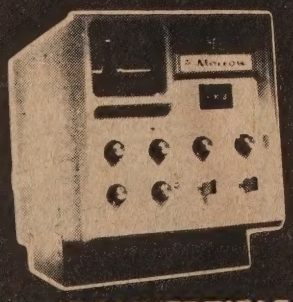

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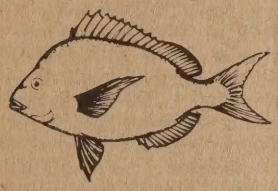
restrictions for each of these species. As a result of this closure and the closure of the Gulf of Maine directed cod fishery on July 8, the directed commercial cod fishing of the Northwest Atlantic becomes the first fishery to be completely closed under the provisions of a fishery management plan developed by a Regional Fishery Management Council.



CHUM LINES

Recently, while fishing off Southeast Light, Block Island, I boated a bluefish of about 11 pounds which had a prominent hump on his back in the vicinity of the dorsal fin. My first reaction was that the fish was diseased or deformed.

Upon returning to the dock, the owner of the marina who is an amateur taxidermist offered to give me "whatever you want for that fish. I simply gave it to him. Since that time, I have mentioned it to a few knowledgeable anglers and, although they could not elaborate, they thought this was very rare. I wonder whether you might be able to tell me something more about this fish. **John J. Farley**

Your letter is most interesting, but I'm afraid without seeing the fish, I can't help you. I can tell you that deformities in fish are quite common and a twisted spine is a prime example. Perhaps that was your bluefish's problem. In any event, these anomalies are not valuable as far as we know. **Dr. W. A. Muller**

BEACH LITTER

I would like to thank you for the editorial on beach litter in the July 28th issue.

Your editorial brought out a fact that's evidently something no one wants to say anything about.

A compliment was paid to the people that do clean up the beach through an organization, committee, or on our own; this was appreciated.

While you did not mention any organization or person, by reading the fourth paragraph, it was an indirect compliment to us. We appreciate it. Again, thank you for your excellent editorial and compliments. **Harold Babcock, President, GSBMS.**

The editorial was long overdue, but I wonder if the "beach slobs" read it? Your organization is to be commended for your work aimed at keeping the beach clean and ecologically sound. However, there are many clubs, organizations, and individuals who work hard for the same goals. The Fisherman applauds all of you. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

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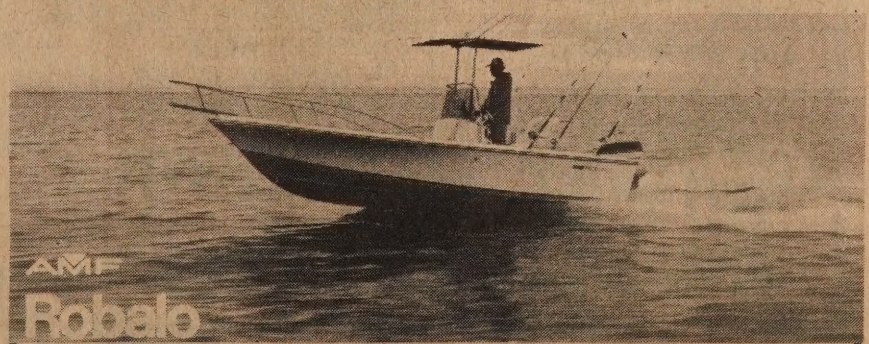

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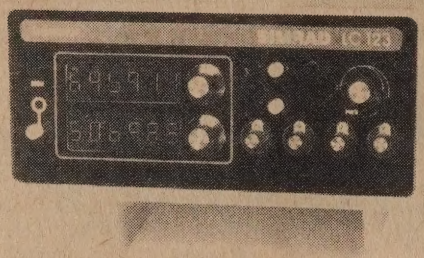

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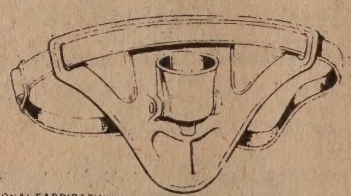
The Long Island FISHERMAN CONTEST

FISHING TRIP

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the next window of issue. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published. If you are call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner!! no calls received the cash prize will accumulate



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LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

Vernon Clifford of Shirley is the winner this week for our contest. Along with his cash prize, Clifford has chosen a free fishing trip for two aboard the Viking Star.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

302-KWR

Weekly winners of the ...I F Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

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Peconic Queen III	Capt Ben Litwin	Chief	Beth
Montauk	Capt Joseph Fleet		

FREEPORT Aloma II

CLUB NEWS

EMPIRE STRIPER ASSOC. FAMILY PICNIC

The Empire Striper Association, Inc., held its annual August family picnic in Eisenhower Park, with George Nellen, statistician, providing games and races for our small army of youngsters. Ted Preftes modeled the new T-shirt and the ladies consoled each other re the degree of their spouses' fishing addiction. Pete Descovich is hobbling as a result of the softball marathon. The array of rod racks and jeeps brought many other anglers to the picnic area to share experiences.

Teams 2 and 5, led by Joe McNamara and Billy Connolly, are battling it out for first place in our weekend team fishing competition (ten pound minimum weight) which ends November 27th.

WANTS TO JOIN A FISHING CLUB

I am an avid reader of The Long Island Fisherman and an avid fisherman. I would like to join a fishing club in the Smithtown or Islip area, and would like to know if you can help me. If you can furnish me with any information as to names and membership possibilities, I would greatly appreciate it. Or, have the clubs write me directly: Charles Lewis, 259 Feeler Dr., Central Islip, N.Y. 11722.

RAMS ROD & REEL

Rams Rod & Reel Club, Bronx, N.Y., were night bluefishing aboard the Wahoo III out of Sheepshead Bay on August 20th.

Fishing was fair to good, with high hook honors to Joe Gallo, Sr., who had the misfortune of being beat out by Ed Hendricks for pool honors. Ed's fish was 8-1/2 pounds.

Eleven-year-old Rich Ramsauer caught his first bluefish of five pounds. The expression on young Richards face while reeling the fish in was a sight to see.

The highlight of the evening was the rare sighting of a giant sea turtle surveying the guys on board not more than 20 feet from the boat.

Our thanks to Captain Skipper and mate Peter, for an enjoyable evening aboard the Wahoo III.

SEA WOLF ANNOUNCES A $1 CASH REFUND OFFER

Sea Wolf Tackle, Inc., makers of **Danny** plugs and **Lupo** lures is currently running a $1 cash refund, mail-in offer. This offer is good on any size or type of **Danny** plug and on the #1 **Lupo** Bunker Spoon and any size **Lupo** Almighty Squid. To be eligible, the consumer must purchase any of the above items and send the top flap of the package card to Sea Wolf. The offer expires on October 1, 1977.

For further information, contact Sea Wolf Tackle, Inc., 37-22 28th Street, Long Island City, New York 11101.

BOATING

The National Park Service, in cooperation with the New York State Bureau of Marine and Recreational Vehicles is sponsoring a Young Boater's Safety Training Program at Gateway National Recreation Area, Breezy Point Unit. Young boaters from the ages of 10-16 will be able to attend classes on four consecutive Saturday mornings beginning September 10, 1977 from 9-11 a.m., in Building #168 in Fort Tilden and participate in the program to be taught by qualified Park Rangers. To register, call Gateway National Recreation Area, Breezy Point Unit at (212) 474-4600 or register directly at the first class. At the completion of the four, two-hour classes, the young boaters will receive a Safety Certificate enabling them to lawfully operate a motor vessel on New York State waterways.

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Islip Flotilla 13, U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will offer free, to all adults over 16 years, the 12-lesson Boating Skills and Seamanship course at the East Islip Library located on Main Street (Montauk Hwy.) just west of the Heckscher Spur. Classes will begin on Monday, September 12th and continue for 12 consecutive weeks. Registration is the first night of class at 7:00 PM.

Subjects to be covered during the course will include: Rules of the Road; Aids to Navigation; Charts & Compass; Marlinspike Seamanship; Weather and Radiotelephone use, and much more of interest to the new boatman.

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The Jones Beach Power Squadron will present the Basic Boating Course of the United States Power Squadrons at Seaford Jr. High School, Washington Avenue, Seaford, New York. The first class will be held Monday, September 19 at 8 PM. Registration will be on opening night, or by visiting our Registration Booth at Penny's Circle, Sunrise Mall, Massapequa, during the week of September 10 through September 17.

This 12 week course is open to men, women and older teen-agers, and you do not have to own a boat to apply. An examination will be given at conclusion and those passing will be issued a certificate attested thereto by the Jones Beach Power Squadron. No one assumes any obligation to USPS in taking this course.

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Flotilla 13-3 of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will begin a six (6) lesson course in Boating Safety and Seamanship at the Atlantic Beach Coast Guard Station, Daytona St., Atlantic Beach. The course will start on Monday, September 12 at 8:00 p.m., and is open to the general public. There is a modest fee for materials. For further information call Ed Caracciolo, (516) 432-4731.

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U.S. Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 13-8, 12 lesson Boating Safety and Seamanship; four-lesson New York State Young Boatmen Course at Seaford High School. Registration on Monday, September 12 and Thursday, September 15, at 7:30 p.m. Classes start on Tuesday, September 20. For information, call: 781-3254.

U.S. Coast Guard Aux. Flotilla 13-8, 12 lesson Boating Safety and Seamanship; 12 lesson Sailing Course, and 4 lesson New York State Young Boatmen Course, at Bethpage High School. Registration on Monday, September 26, and Wednesday, September 28. Classes start on Tuesday, October 4. For information, call: 781-3254. Time - 7:30.

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The Plum Beach Power Squadron is giving its free basic boating course. An invitation is extended to boatmen, their wives, and young persons over 12 years of age. It is not required that students own a boat. The course covers small boat handling, safety, navigation, etc.

Registration is at Kingsborough Community College, September 19, 8 PM in Building 5163. For further information, call: 645-0523.

This is given as a public service by Plum Beach Power Squadron without charge. We would appreciate it if you were to apprise your readers of this course during the first week of September.

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In the first part of this article I discussed the general make-up of Lido Beach. This week I will discuss the four methods I use for presenting bait during varying wind conditions.

Let us begin with what I will call the orthodox methods that I use during south, southeast, and southwest winds.

The Fish-Finder Rig: This rig is no secret—surfmen have used it for years. You can buy a fish-finder rig in your local tackle shop. The fish-finder consists of a connecting link attached to a plastic slip do-hicky. Personally, I don't use them, since the plastic grooves and eventually splits. All that you really need is a connecting link and two beads. Position one bead on the line, then the connecting link, then the other bead; next add a barrel swivel and finish the whole thing off with a two to three foot leadered hook. When fishing such baits as worms, clams, or chunk bait, use a cork float on the leader since crabs abound at Lido.

Surf Side

with David Curti

BAITFISHING AT LIDO BEACH

PART TWO

I use conventional tackle exclusively for this type of fishing. My reel is a Penn Squidder loaded with 30 pound test Dacron. It has a small diameter and lies flat on the reel. Dacron casts more easily and tangles less often than mono, and also has very little stretch.

I use two types of rods. One rod is a 10-1/2 footer with a stiff tip. This is my live eel and bunker chunk stick. Believe me, when I am casting a twelve inch eel with five ounces of lead into a heavy southwest wind, I welcome a stiff rod to throw that weight. However, the brute force needed for this stick has a tendency to throw off the soft baits such as clams and sandworms. For this reason, my other rod has parabolic action; that is, the action is built into the entire length of the rod, rather than just the rod tip. The bait is lobbed rather than snapped out.

Most of my fish-finder fishing occurs during moderate to heavy winds, and I find that I need at least four or five ounces of lead to prevent the bait from being washed inshore. Also, when fishing a rip, it is a good idea to keep the bait as stable as possible—unless you want to walk the bait. This is best accomplished from the jetties.

Cast into the beginning of the rip, letting out additional line when the bait hits the water. In this way, the rig will go to the bottom quickly. Raise the rod tip lightly, at the same time, releasing some line from the reel. Walking a bait from a jetty is done in the same way as from an anchored boat. I use this method at times when I am fishing worms. Using the fish-finder, you can easily feel the fish pick up the bait—even in a powerful rip.

This method produced a mess of bass from three to ten pounds at the Bath House Jetty during southeast winds on an outgoing tide. A tremendous rip had built up, and from half tide to dead low, the bass fed ravenously.

I realize that I have just devoted a number of paragraphs to walking the bait; but let me say that I don't use this method that often myself. I prefer to fish the holes or along the sides of the jetties—especially at high tides. Just look to see which way the rips are flowing, and fish accordingly. My fishing experience with Lido has shown me that the bigger fish like to lie in the holes that always seem to be abundant in the area. If I told you how many schoolies I've gotten in the last couple of years, you wouldn't believe me: so you fish the jetties and I'll fish the holes!

Free Swimming Live Bait: This is perhaps one of the most difficult methods for presenting bait in the surf, for the simple reason that it is so hard to keep the bait alive. The tackle you use for this really isn't so special. I favor conventional, but I have used spinning. In fact, with the exception of live eels and snappers, most of my live bait fishing is not at all pre-planned. For example, there was a blackfisherman who just happened to let me have a small blackfish he had just caught: on it went, and a few minutes later, I was rewarded with a nice bass.

While we are on the subject of tackle, let me say that it makes no difference to me whether I am fishing plugs or bait, since there are two things I always carry in my surf bag: one of these is a 3/0 to 5/0 sproat hook and the other is a snag rig.

Live bait may be used during any wind conditions—from a dead calm to a northeaster—as long as you have high water. Live baits don't work well from the beach, since it is tough to keep them out of the wash. The Bath House Jetty is ideal for live bait fishing, for it has flat rocks placed strategically on either side. It's higher than the other jetties, so you can look down on the water and maneuver your line around the rocks.

There is another method that can be used during southerly winds, providing they are not too strong. This is the first of my unorthodox methods.

The Kiddie Rig: The name, of course, is a local cliche. All it is, is a large cork float fished three to four feet above a split shot weighted hook. This method is also most productive off the jetties at high tides. Many weakfish were produced for me with this rig, using worms as bait.

I use a 9-1/2 foot fast action tip spinning rod, with a Penn 704 reel. My method is to cast the rig out from the jetty, and let it drift back and around the tip. If you try it, make sure you set your drag fairly light. The hit is usually extremely fast and close to the jetty. A fish, feeling the resistance of a tight drag heads straight into the rocks and, at that point, you've lost him. However, with a light drag, it heads out where you can play it until it is tired enough to land.

So far I've mentioned worms, but you can use just about any bait with this type of rig. One of my favorites is snappers. With the yearly onslaught of these fish, I fish live bait with regularity. The August doldrums can come alive when snappers are the bait.

I just bring along an ultra-light spinner with a snapper lure. The smaller the snapper the better, since stripers are as partial to a young blue as weakfish are.

As anyone who has fished the surf with regularity can testify, the sea is rarely calm. In fact old surfmen will tell you that a calm sea usually means poor fishing.

So what should you do if you arrive on the beach to find northerly winds and a flat calm? My advice would be to do what I do—that is, to use balloons! This brings me to the last of my unorthodox methods. Think I am crazy? Let me tell you a story.

A number of years ago, I was on a fishing pier in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Since it was mid-afternoon in mid-summer, there were few fishermen or fish dumb enough to brave the heat of the day. Aside from myself, there was just one other parboiled fisherman. The pier was T-shaped, and the other fellow was at the other end of the T. I was bored, and felt the need for some fishermen's talk. During most of our conversation, he kept staring out toward the horizon, intently watching something. I assumed that, like myself, he was fishing for king mackerel, but his tackle looked a little heavy for mackerel. (He was using a medium action rod, with a 6/0 reel loaded with 20 or 30 pound test.)

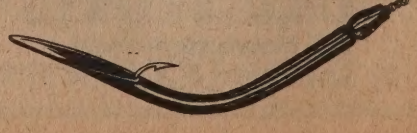
I was mulling over various ways of tactfully broaching the subject of his tackle, when the clicker on his reel sang out. He set the hook and after quite a few minutes, brought the fish to the waiting net. It was a blue of about six pounds. After unhooking it, he raised a stringer from under the pier revealing three others. "Blues? How?" I blurted out. It was then that I noticed the balloon. The blues, he explained, were far offshore, and the only way to reach them when the winds were coming off the land, was by using a balloon.

This is actually a simple rig. Just attach a balloon to the connecting link on a fish-finder instead of a sinker. Use a small split shot one foot above the hook to bring the bait down. The offshore winds take the balloon out to the outer bar where the fish are feeding during northerly winds.

Make sure your reel is fully loaded. I've used as much as two hundred yards of line to reach the depths beyond the outer bar. I have been successful at all stages of the tide using this method—but I prefer high water.

Any baits can be fished with this rig, but I favor live eels fished at dusk.

Next week I will discuss the baits I use more fully.



FISH TALK

with Dr. William A. Muller

MAKO SHARK

Isurus oxyrhinchus

THE MAKO SHARK, or more precisely shortfin mako shark, belongs to the family Lamnidae which are the mackerel sharks. The mako shark goes by a number of different names in different parts of the world. These include: mako, bonito shark, and sharpnose mackerel shark. The mako has a worldwide distribution in warm and temperate seas.

THE MAKO SUPPOSED TO BE FASTEST! Most descriptions of the mako state that it is the fastest shark in the seas, and maybe it is. Still, I think that you might get an argument about that from those who have seen both the mako and the white shark in action. Nonetheless, mako are fast and powerful and because they are the only sharks that will consistently jump, they are sought after by many offshore anglers.

BIG SHARK! The mako averages about six to eight feet, but may grow larger than twelve feet and reach a weight of well over 1,000 pounds. The rod and reel record for the species is 1,061 pounds taken off New Zealand. However, this summer a mako was harpooned off Montauk which checked in at over 1300 pounds. My friends, that's a shark that I care not to be associated with—if I'm standing in the suds that is!

ATTRACTIVE AS SHARKS GO! Personally, I do not find sharks attractive, although some fishermen believe they are. However, a mako ain't bad. The dorsal fin is large and prominant and the dorsal surface is a rich blue; the snout is pointed and the sides are silvery.

BIG EATERS. Years ago before anglers deliberately fished for sharks, there was a saying that if you want to catch makos the best way was to fish for anything else. Makos like to chase other speedy open ocean prey such as mackerels and bonitos. Sharks are often described as not too bright, but some of them can be seen to display some remarkable behavior. Those that chase fast swimming fish are especially prone to hunt in teams. They will sometimes circle the bait and drive them down-tide to others of their species that are waiting for the kill.

BASICALLY A WARM WATER SPECIES. Most of the pelagic fish that visit our waters are warm water lovers, but the Gulf Stream that travels northward towards Europe and comes quite close to our shores in summer provides suitable conditions for their survival. In addition, many of their favorite food species migrate northward during the summer, and this attracts the makos and other sharks.

CHUMMING IS THE KEY. Most shark fishing fans are fanatics about chum. They will spend days catching mackerel or snagging bunker when they are available. In fact, they'll collect any available fish if the price is right. The fish are then ground up into a soupy chum. Those anglers who selectively seek out makos will usually save several choice mackerel for bait. Once out on the deep water, the chum is generously distributed and the fishermen hope for a moderate drift to help create a long, effective chum slick. Calm, driftless days are the bane of these fishermen. Most offshore nuts beam when they tell you that one of the greatest things about offshore chumming is that you never know what might come up in the slick: marlin, swordfish, and sharks of all varieties are common visitors along with all of the tuna clan.

HEAVY TACKLE IS REQUIRED. The fact that the unexpected usually happens when fishing the blue water is often a problem as well as a joy. Many fishermen may feed a baited hook back into the slick with fairly light tackle attached at the boat end. They are hoping that a white marlin or small tuna may grab that line and provide some excellent moments on the light tackle. Inevitably, the marlin takes the heavy outfit and a mako or giant tuna gobbles up the bait at the other end of the line tackle. The results are usually the same. A long run, followed by the pop of the relatively light line.

A LITTLE SPICE WHILE BLUEFISHING OR VICE-VERSA. Bluefish have seen fit in their infinite wisdom to stay offshore for much of the season during the past couple of years. Thus bluefishermen, too, are found chumming in the deeps. But at forty fathoms you're likely to have some surprise guests for dinner. Guess who's coming for dinner? Bam, mako on! Rrrr-rrr-r smash! So much for that 4/0 outfit. But the reverse is also true. Shark fishermen looking for offshore thrills with makos and the rest, often have a hard time with the bluefish which often rise in the chum slick. At such times, it's hard to keep a bait in the water long enough for a mako to get to it. Bluefish as pests?

THE FISHERMAN MUST BE SMARTER THAN THE FISH! I guess one might have a tendency to give up in disgust, but not our local sharpies. If you need more time to get a mako to the hook amidst a sea of bluefish, why not put a live, but slightly crippled, bluefish on one of those meat hooks and throw it back into the slick.

BE CAREFUL! Offshore shark fishing is no sport for the novice. It can be downright dangerous: not because the sharks will eat your boat, but because a hooked thousand-pound shark is a powerful customer. If your luck and skills hold through the jumps and powerful runs of the mako and you bring it to the boat, you may just be greeted with the biggest surprise of all. Makos have been known to jump into a cockpit from time to time. Once again, this is not a deliberate attempt to destroy the fishermen. Animals are just not capable of vengeance. That is a trait restricted to the most intelligent of God's creations—man! But makos like to jump and if it jumps next to your boat, it may come down inside the boat. Tennis anyone?

MAKOS ARE FINE EATING. Most people who have eaten both mako sharks and swordfish agree that it is very difficult to distinguish between them. Both the texture and flavor are similar. There is another similarity too; that is, both are high in mercury—a heavy metal that is toxic to living systems. The Federal Food and Drug Administration banned the sale of swordfish some years ago, but they have relaxed enforcement to the point where swordfish is openly sold across the counter and in restaurants.

TEETH ARE VALUED AS JEWELRY. Many fishermen extract the teeth from large sharks which are caught, especially since the popularity of Jaws. I guess that white shark teeth are the best for decorative wear because the teeth are regularly triangular, but the makos' dentures are impressive in their own right.

NEVER BRING A MAKO ON BOARD! More than one cockpit has been torn to bits by a mako that was thought dead. In fact, experienced skippers rarely bring any large shark on board. The usual practice is to tow the fish back to port.

MANY SHARKS ARE SENSELESSLY KILLED. It is unfortunate that many fishermen are still into the "trophy bring 'em back alive" syndrome. Each year thousands, if not tens of thousands, of sharks are towed to port for display and then towed back out to sea the next day to be discarded. The Japanese longliners also take their toll of wasted sharks. They save only the dorsal fin and discard the rest of the creature. Whether or not sharks arouse in us a deep and profound sense of fear and/or disgust, they do play an important part in the ecology of the sea. If they did not, then nature would not have placed them there. The fact is that they are important in the scheme of things, so may we urge you to "keep what you can eat, and eat what you keep" and release the rest.

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

Last Chance for Fluke

I don't know how you did with fluke this summer, but I hope your results were better than mine. The usual "hotspots" on which I relied so much either failed to produce, or came through with fewer fish than I had expected. But I'm not too disappointed because now that late summer is here, I plan on getting even with a few good licks to sort of balance the score.

I know my opportunity to do this is now at hand. Past experience has taught me this is the time of year fluke are preparing to make that long trek back to the Continental Shelf, intent on spending the winter in warmer waters and getting on with the business of propagating the species. Before that departure time is at hand, however, many fluke will devote a bit of time lingering around ocean inlets, concentrating on fattening up and gaining the necessary strength needed for the long haul before them. I know, too, that because of this my chances of connecting with outsize fluke are also greatly increased. In fact, it isn't unusual for fishermen to catch their biggest fluke of the year at this time.

The set-up for late summer fluke fishing around inlets is just a little different than that used all summer long. I guess the most important thing is to use heavier tackle because, as I say, there's always a good chance of landing a hefty fish. Most fishermen I know who enjoy this type of fluke fishing make it a point to use nothing but medium-weight conventional tackle: a rod with a bit of backbone and a reel capable of holding at least 100 yards of 20 pound test good quality mono. If you have medium-weight spinning gear, you can get by with a matching reel and 15 pound test stuff.

I really think, though, that for this fishing it's best to use a conventional rod and reel whenever possible. Sometimes these inlet fluke can be real heavyweights. Last year in mid-September, I saw a Jones Inlet skiff fisherman weigh in a doormat that scaled a shade less than thirteen pounds. With this possibility on tap, I think rugged stuff more appropriate.

And because fishing is done under conditions that can be tough—currents are stronger as a rule, and at times wind has full sweep, causing faster drifting—heavier sinkers are necessary. When fishermen use spinning tackle, these conditions make fishing difficult. Although most times you'll find a four to five-ounce bank-style sinker will get by, I recall drifting outside Rockaway Inlet one early fall day when eight ounces was necessary to hold bottom and present the bait in a natural-like manner so important for successful fishing. And then again, depending on those same wind conditions and current strengths, you might find a day when only a three-ouncer is necessary.

When encountering faster than normal drifts, bait will often spin and twist; therefore, when rigging up, using a 1/0 three-way swivel makes good sense. For best results, swivels should be placed on the main line with Improved Clinch Knots. Substitute loops made with double-overhand knots can be used if tied with care. Meaning that the knots should be pulled up slowly, being certain that they seat evenly. This will help eliminate any possible cutting action when under stress. I still think, however, that it is always best under strong tidal conditions to use three-way swivels tied with Improved Clinch Knots.

What hook to use? Fishermen often make glaring mistakes in hook selection, but there should be no problem here. Use a 4/0 Carlisle. This hook is long-shanked (as are all Carlisles), and you'll find it's just what the doctor ordered for easy hook removal. As noted, fluke at this time of year can be good-sized, with a set of wicked-looking teeth that will make any sensible fisherman think twice about the safety of his fingers. But you'll find a long-shanked hook offers a firm grip and also gives the angler the advantage of leverage when attempting to back it out.

A good many of my fishing buddies don't agree with me on this, but I find that a four-foot, twenty-pound test leader will produce more fluke than one of shorter length. I can't tell you why, I just know it is so. I suspect, though, that this is because the extra length gives the bait that certain action inlet fluke expect from their intended victims. That's the closest I've been able to come with an explanation. I can tell you that when I experiment and change to a shorter length, my catch immediately suffers for it. This does not apply to the bays—only around the inlets.

Okay. Where do you get these four-footers? I'm sorry to say that it may be necessary to make them up yourself. However, don't despair. By temporarily joining two eighteen inch leaders you'll get something close to a four-footer when an ordinary snelled hook of the correct size is added. Do it this way for now, but this winter drop a card to Midland Tackle Company, 66 Route 17, Sloatsburg, New York 10974 and request a copy of their catalog. In it you will find a listing of 47 inch lengths of hook snelling material of various weights. This is your leader material. When a loose hook is snelled on one end of a twenty-pound test leader and a Perfection Loop tied on the other, the result will be close enough. And you won't have those weak, weed-catching center joining knots to contend with.

Leaders are best placed on the main line about three inches above the sinker. Some fishermen place it as much as a foot or more, but I've never found this to be necessary. The choice is yours; perhaps you'll find this will work for you.

Incidentally, those fishermen who are unsure as to how to snell hooks need not fret. Midland also carries a knot tier called a "Gryp-Knot." I've never used one, but have the idea this device will solve many hook snelling problems. But this isn't to say fishermen should use this as a substitute for knowledge on the proper method of hook snelling. If you wish to become a well-rounded fisherman, learning how to snell hooks and tying the Perfection Loop is essential to your progress. If interested in this, check page three of this issue for information on ordering back copies and request Issue #37, 1974.

You'll find that at this time of year, sand eel is an excellent bait to use. If you glance down into the water, you'll see the reason for this. It seems that inlets fairly swarm with these bait fish in late summer. Freshly-seined sand eels are always hard to come by, therefore, you'll probably have to settle for the frozen stuff. Run the hook through the eyes and let the fluke munch a bit before setting the hook.

The same applies to spearing. These, however, are often soft upon thawing and when in this condition, they become difficult to use properly. Either hook through the eyes or once through the head and then again about mid-point in the body, making sure the hook is exposed. If the spearing slides down the hook shank and bunches in one lump, hook only through the eyes.

Live killies are never refused at any time of year and they just can't be beaten as fluke catchers. It's best to run the hook through the mouth and out the gill cover. Killies stay alive a long time if this is done without nicking the delicate gills. You can also do the same with small live bergalls and snappers.

The fisherman who desires to use fish bait has a wide selection from which to choose. Strips cut from the belly of one of your smaller fluke (please—no "throw-backs"!) or a four-inch tapered strip of squid have brought many fluke to the net. Those tough strips cut from sea robin tails are also hard to beat. Use the dark strips first when fishing over known sand bottom. Hook all strips but once at the widest part and allow to flutter along the bottom as the boat drifts along. As fishermen never know for certain what kind of bait will produce best from day to day, it's always a good idea to carry at least two different kinds.

Drifts are made along inlet breakwaters and on the open sand bottom of the ocean on quiet days. Watch the weather when inlet fishing! Of course, drifting in the inlet itself produces fish, but you've got to keep an eye on boat traffic in inlets with narrow channels, or those which do not allow much room for larger boats to maneuver. So be careful!

It is always best to jig in one-foot sweeps of the rod. When weight is felt, don't be in too much of a hurry to set the hook. Give the fish time to get the bait down. When done correctly, you'll find the fish has hooked itself.

I think late summer fluke fishing is well worth the effort. And, too, it's a long, long wait until fluke return next spring. In fact, you might say as far as this year goes, it's our last chance for fluke.

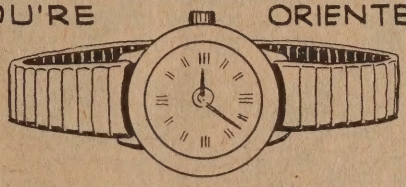
FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

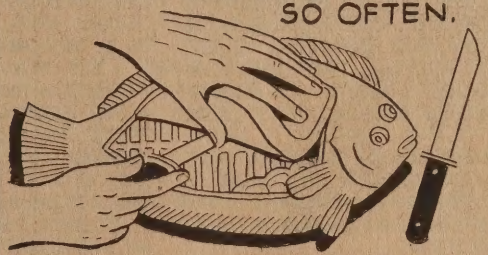
SHARKS PREFER WATER OF 70% F. OR MORE AND FEED PRIMARILY AT NIGHT. MANY LARGE SPECIES COME INTO SHALLOW WATER AT NIGHT TO FEED. AREAS NEAR DEEP CHANNELS ARE *NO* PLACE TO GO SWIMMING AFTER DARK.

SEPTEMBER IS ONE OF THE BEST MONTHS FOR FRESHWATER BASS FISHING AS THEY ARE LOADING UP FOR A WINTER UNDER THE ICE. BASS WILL HUG THE SHALLOW SHORELINE AND BE TAKEN WITH SURFACE AND POPPING PLUGS.

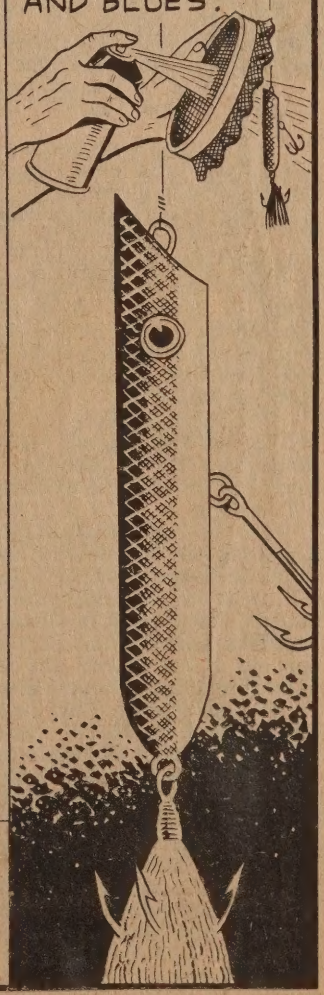
YOUR WATCH IS A GOOD SUBSTITUTE COMPASS. POINT THE HOUR HAND TOWARD THE SUN. HALFWAY BETWEEN 12 AND THE HOUR HAND IS *SOUTH*. NOW YOU'RE ORIENTED!



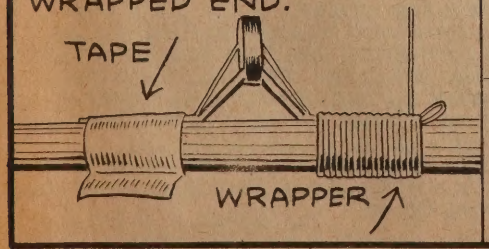
IF YOU FILLET A LOT OF FISH CONSIDER USING TWO KNIVES, ONE FOR FLESH, THE OTHER FOR CUTTING BONES. THEY WON'T HAVE TO BE SHARPENED SO OFTEN.



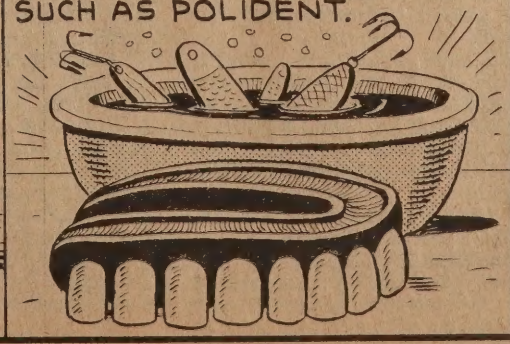
SPRAY PAINTING A PLUG THROUGH MESH NETTING WILL GIVE IT A SCALE FINISH AFTER ITS BEEN CHEWED UP BY PIKE, BASS AND BLUES.



ROD WRAPPING: IF YOUR FISHING ROD GUIDE NEEDS FRESH WRAPPING, REMOVE THE OLD THREADS AND SECURE THE GUIDE TO THE ROD WITH A PIECE OF CELLOPHANE TAPE. THIS KEEPS GUIDE IN PLACE AND STEADY WHILE YOU TIE DOWN WRAPPED END.



TO CLEAN LURES PLACE THEM IN A BOWL OF HOT WATER AND ADD AN EFFERVESCENT DENTURE CLEANER SUCH AS POLIDENT.



THE LONG ISLAND SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

Last winter The Long Island Fisherman conceived the idea of a council to represent the saltwater sport fishermen of the New York Marine District.

At the outset, the response to the concept was positive and overwhelming. Mr. Anthony Taormina, Director of Marine and Coastal Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation, said that he would welcome the Council and he was convinced that the Department could use the advice of the Council and could work with it to further the goals of both organizations. Anglers called, wrote letters, and were enthusiastic that for the first time an organization would be established to unite sport fishermen in our area to fight for our sport, and the fish species that we love.

We have been organizing these efforts ever since. The Council has evolved from the germ of an idea to a formal structure and group of people. The preliminary structure plans have been published in a past issue (#13) of The Long Island Fisherman.

We are pleased to announce that these preliminary plans have been amended by the membership and during our last meeting at the Plainview Holiday Inn on August 25, 1977, the membership approved a Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws. Our legal counsel, Mr. Robert Mayer, who has graciously volunteered his services to the Council free of charge, will forward the Certificate of Incorporation to the Department of State (N.Y.).

We are rolling! Mr. Taormina, along with Senior Fisheries Biologist John Poole and his first assistant, Mr. Chet Zawacki, attended the August 25th meeting.

For those of you who may not be familiar with the progress of the Council, let me briefly summarize its structure.

The Council consists of a four-level structure. The first, and largest level is the General Membership. Any sport fisherman living and fishing in the New York Marine District is eligible to be a member. They may engage membership via ten (10) different routes. The second level is the Representative Membership. Clubs, groups, organizations, etc., select representatives for this level. The third level is the Board of Directors. Each of ten (10) categories of the Representative level elect a board member. The fourth level consists of the Officers of the Council. These are: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary.

The Representative level meets five (5) times per year. The annual meeting will be held during the first week in November, and in addition to financial statements, the election of officers, the election of the Board will take place at this meeting.

The first chore of the Council will be the weakfish gillnetting problem in Long Island waters, especially on the Great South Bay flats. Mr. Taomina discussed this problem with us at the August 27th meeting, along with a number of issues that will need attention during upcoming months. Mr. Taormina said that the DEC was very anxious to learn the opinions of the Council and to gather information from the Council relative to several issues.

It was agreed that the Council would form several committees immediately, each to relate specifically to the problems aired by Mr. Taormina. The committees will gather information from Council members and formulate a position and policy. This position paper must have approval of the Representative level before the committee can meet with DEC officials. These committees are:

Weakfish Gillnetting Committee—Ed Sweeney, Chairman.
Saltwater License Committee—Joe Falke, Chairman
Menhaden Committee—Wade Denning, Chairman

The next meeting will be held during the end of September and the Weakfish Gillnetting Committee will supply a position summary for the Council's approval prior to a meeting with the DEC early in October. Other committees will report on their progress, although formal position summaries are not required of them at the October meeting.

We have come a long way since our beginnings. However, let me remind you that Certificates of Incorporation and ratified By-Laws do not make an organization effective or powerful. Hard work accomplishes that, the same kind of hard work that it took to get the Council rolling. Hard work is never fun when you aren't paid for it, but the rewards will come to us in the form of better fishing and a healthier marine environment. These ends are not easily achieved and progress shall be slow, but if we persevere, we will succeed!

We will, of course, need funds, and at the proper time in the near future when we have received Incorporated status, we will ask you to join the Council economically. Not everyone is in a position to donate their time and energy, but almost everyone can help financially. Categories will be:

Sponsor—$5
Contributing Sponsor—$10
Supporting Sponsor—$100
Benefactor—$500
Patron—$1,000 and Up

For many of you, enthusiasm for the Council will come in the future. We are hopeful that our successes will be significant and frequent; that government and communities will seek our advice, and that the Council will always be a united force for **all** saltwater fishermen.

For the Representative level, the Board of Directors, and the Officers in office at the present time, we urge you to keep your enthusiasm even through the boring trials and tribulations of establishing the Council.

For the wives, husbands, and families of Representatives and Officers, we ask that you provide an atmosphere of understanding. We know that working with the Council will take your loved one away for evening meetings, but they are working for you as well. Much of the future happiness and health of your families may depend on their participation. Jacques Cousteau has said; "... we need our oceans." They can only be saved by the hard work of thousands of concerned citizens. History has taught us that we can't let the other guy do it, because if we do, the job will not get done!

We must all ask ourselves—what can I do to help? Already so many have generously given of themselves, can any of us afford to turn our backs on each other now? The Long Island Fisherman has always presented the opinion that together we are strong and powerful. If we have been pushed around in the past, it is because we have not been willing to group together. Sure, we're a diverse group of people with lots of different views and customs; but those differences need not be a divisive force. Rather, we can turn it into a strength. Diversity is knowledge: knowledge about lots of different places, situations, species, habitats, and subjects. Knowledge is power!

In November, The Long Island Fisherman will retreat from a role of dominance on the Council, when my term of office is over. We have promised fishermen that the Council would not become an arm of The Long Island Fisherman, and we intend to keep our promise. This doesn't mean that we will run away. Indeed not! Both Scott Simons and I intend to retain our seats on the Representative level and to serve on committees, where appropriate.

It has been a welcomed job and a satisfying one, but it's time for grass roots control. We hope that the permanent Officers and Board will govern with intellect and logic—not emotion and rhetoric. Office demands that we sometimes vote against our own beliefs when we know that another approach is more beneficial to all.

We will not lose our enthusiasm and we hope you do not lose yours. Be on a winning team. Participate on The Long Island Sportfishing Council.

Dr. William A. Muller
PRESIDENT

SEPTEMBER VARIETY IN GREAT SOUTH BAY

by Herb Buch

One of my favorite forms of fishing is hunting weakfish with light tackle from an outboard boat in Great South Bay. During the spring and summer, I concentrate on weaks—using both bait and lures, or combinations. When September arrives, I change my approach and try for the great variety of edible pan fish that now swim in these waters.

During the summer, we occasionally score on fluke or kingfish with weakfish rigs, but now we have some customers that have smaller mouths or want different baits. The list is long, including porgies, sea bass, blowfish, snappers, blackfish, sea robins, flounder, and toadfish, plus the regular kings, fluke, and weaks. Sea robins are good eating if you haven't tried them—just be careful of their spines as you clean them. Toadfish (sometimes called Oyster-crackers) are brown, big-headed, horned monsters reputed to have poison glands associated with some of their many spines. They have big mouths and can bite hard. So far as I can determine, no one eats them, so we unhook them very carefully and return them to the water. 1976 brought some southern stragglers in the form of small spots, sometimes called Lafayettes. They are delicious pan fish and worth cleaning, even though the ones that we caught were small.

There are no tackle busters here, but if you like fresh fish of assorted flavors, this is a chance to put away a variety which is not usually available at one place and at one time. We always freeze some packages of these assorted pan fish to enjoy during the winter.

Catching fish is no problem is you have the right bait, a hook of the correct size, and know where the fish are. Let's start with locations. There are many good spots, but we always begin around the area of buoys 28, 29, 30, because that area includes flats, a channel, and a fish trap area (marked by a lot of poles). Another good area is around buoys 4 and 5 south of Heckscher State Park. The Long Island Fisherman always has several reports covering this area and local boat rental stations will bring you up-to-date. Many fishermen just look for clusters of boats, which are often an indication of a current hotspot.

The best hooks are small ones because they will take all of the fish mentioned and a lot of others. If blowfish and snappers are not common, I like a size six regular shanked hook like the Sproat. You can take two hooks and attach the loop of one snell about halfway down the snell of the other. Making your own rig out of two ringed hooks and a length of fifteen pound test mono is even better if you can tie a few knots. If the toothy

Porgies and sea bass make a good catch.

critters (snappers and blowfish) are common, I use the same size hook with a very long shank which prevents most of the bite-offs. A hook of this type which is usually available, is the Carlisle. I do not like regular flounder hooks because I do not think that they permit good presentation of all kinds of baits, but they will work if that is all you have.

On freshwater tackle, you will never need more than an ounce of lead. We usually use one-half ounce in drifting. With heavy line you might have to go to two ounces, but that would be the heaviest needed. Bank sinkers—the type most commonly used for boat fishing—are ideal.

Bait should be varied. We always take worms and squid, but clams are also good. Each of us fishes two kinds of bait. Usually we use a small squid strip (about one-half inch wide and three inches long) on the end hook, and worms or clam on the dropper hook. You could stick to worms and clams entirely, but that squid strip is excellent for kingfish at times, and will also tempt a weak or a fluke, and there are always a few of these around even late in the season. We used to combine that bottom rig with a high hook for weaks, but we stopped for two reasons. First, when the bottom fish are biting fast, you have a lot of tangles in the boat, which slows your fishing. Second, when snappers are schooling out in the bay, they tear the bait off the high hook in short order and divert you from other fish.

At this time of the year, you can often get very hot snapper fishing in the open waters by casting small spoons on a light rod, while you leave the bottom rig to fish itself. My personal preference goes in another direction: I love snappers, but we usually get enough of them without trying for them. I take the extra rod and attach a one-quarter ounce bucktail jig (synthetic hair preferred for durability) in white or yellow to the six pound test mono; then I put a strip of squid on the hook and place the rod in a rod holder with the jig just touching bottom. As the boat rocks in the waves, the jig bounces up and down in an attractive manner. Loosen up the drag and leave it alone. Now concentrate on the bottom fish and every once in a while, a weakfish will hook himself on that jig. Don't use a salty dog at this time of year, because if snappers are common, they will eat the plastic shrimp right off the hook. They may not suffer from indigestion, but I hate to lose a good lure without catching a fish.

When you get to the area that you are going to fish, bait up your bottom rig and drift until you locate fish. At times, they are scattered over tremendous areas and long drifts are possible. At other times, short drifts are more productive. If you have chum with a chum pot, and the tide is running well, you can often bring the fish to you. It is always best to locate a productive area first and then begin chumming on the up-current side of that area. If the current is very slow or slack, your chum will do no good.

Great South Bay is big water, so always listen to a weather report before

(Continued on page 29.)

★STRIPED BASS FISHING★

Eels, Live and Rigged

by Ron Onorato

After having spent many years in pursuit of big striped bass, one thing seems to be pretty consistent—the biggest fish seem to have been taken on live or fresh dead bait. While it is true that many big fish have fallen to plugs and bunker spoons, it has been the bait that most consistently produces the biggest fish. When we talk about bait fishing for stripers on Long Island, generally two things come to mind: live bunkers or eels. Up north, live mackerel is used to a great extent, and our neighbors to the south favor the use of live herring. Both of these baits will produce fish along the entire range of the bass, but due to the lack of availability on Long Island, they are rarely used; the mossbunker and the eel are favored in New York waters. We have already dwelled on the use of bunkers—both dead and alive—so we'll move along and take a look at our nocturnal friend, the eel.

The eel that many Long Island fishermen know is a well-traveled voyager, coming up from the Sargasso Sea after having been hatched. It appears that they remain in local waters for a period of time before moving out to sea to begin the spawning process again. Their abundance fluctuates from season to season, and for the past few years, have only been in moderate supply. In addition to their value as a source of bait, they are eagerly sought as food value. During the cold winter months, they are tonged by the baymen to be consumed at some holiday feast. As fishermen, we're only concerned with their value as a striper bait.

At one time, the rigged eel was one of the most widely used striper baits, with less attention being paid the live stuff. When the bass were heavy, the local skiff fishermen would troll rigged eels right in front of the many rock and wood jetties of Rockaway and Long Beach. Today, the rigged is but a memory to all but a handful of knowing anglers. It is far easier to use the live eel, and it seems that today's bass fishermen want things easy. In my opinion, a properly worked, rigged eel will outfish a live one under certain conditions. We'll take a look at both the live and rigged eel, and cover some hints and different techniques that are used with each.

Getting a supply of live eels is no problem on Long Island. You can go to virtually any local tackle shop, plunk down a buck or two, and get a few eels. Of course, the serious bass fisherman does not buy eels like that; he buys them by the gross and keeps them alive somewhere along the waterfront so that he'll have a ready supply at all times—especially when the fishing gets hot.

For reasons that have baffled fishermen along the Coast for years, eels—whether fished dead or alive—are at their best sometime between the hours of sunset and sunrise. For whatever reasons, live or dead eels are not very effective during the daylight hours. Of course, big fish have taken eels when the sun was shining brightly; but, for the most part, they are used during the evening hours. A dark, overcast day will also show results with the snakes. During the height of the spring and fall migrations, the fish will take eels at any hour of the day, but even during that time they will prefer the eel at the hours of darkness. Two years ago, while bass fishing at the wooden panels off Rockaway Beach, live eels were cast repeatedly at one particular jetty, with no sign of life well after the sun was up. The eels were stowed away, and live bunkers were then used. All hell broke loose, as George Oliver and myself took seven big fish on the bunkers off that same panel. This has not happened on just one occasion either—but several times over the course of a few seasons.

Let's take a look at live eels first, and then we'll move along to the rigged snakes. However you get your supply of bait is up to you, but you must take certain precautions to prevent the eels from dying. Fortunately, eels are about the toughest thing swimming in the ocean, and are very durable. If you don't have a floating bait well, you'll have to use a pail, or some other smaller receptacle to hold them. What we'll usually do is to take an old burlap sack and douse it with a bucket of sea water. The sack is then wrung out so that it is only moist and not dripping wet. We'll take the sack and stuff it in a big pail and then throw about ten or eleven eels on top of it. The eels will gradually squirm their way underneath the sack and will remain quite content and lively for as long as several days, as long as the sack is kept moist and cool. The biggest mistake to make is throwing a bunch of eels in a pail with some water in it. The eels will quickly use up all the oxygen and rapidly die.

You can fish live eels in one of two ways: without any sort of weight, and one with some sort of drail; each has its application under certain conditions. Before we get into the manner in which the eels will be fished, let's take a brief look at the tackle you'll need to fish them. Fishing eels, either dead or alive, requires some sort of conventional outfit. You don't need that heavy rod that you would use for casting the heavy bunkers, but something that will enable you to whip out those snakes some fifty or sixty feet, as often is necessary. You'll also need enough backbone to stick a forty or fifty pound fish, and land him. This is a hard combination to buy just anywhere. Go to a rod builder and either have him make you up a stick, or buy a blank and make the stick yourself.

As far as the reel is concerned, while there are many that you can use effectively, I'm really partial to the Penn Squidder #140. The reason for this is that the Squidder is equipped with a release that allows the spool to move either way, but still remain in gear. This is quite important, as we'll see later on. Twenty pound mono is plenty, unless you're fishing near the rocks or around the bridges where it pays to go to thirty pound mono.

The first way to fish the eels is to simply live line them without any sort of weight. This is done most often when fishing around shallow water areas, and where the current is lazy. Usually around the jetties and wooden panels, there is no need to use a sinker. The eel is hooked through the top lip with a 5/0 Eagle Claw or O'Shaugnessey hook. The hook is connected to the terminal end of the mono by means of a three-foot leader of forty or fifty pound mono, and attached via a small barrel swivel. Some fishermen like to hook the eel through both lips, and do reasonably well this way—so you can do it either way.

Once you've got the snake hooked up, you're ready to let him do his thing. If you're fishing the jetties, usually the best thing to do is cast the live eel as close as possible to the stones and then begin a very slow retrieve back to the boat. If you've got an energetic eel, you can let him swim about for a few seconds before bringing him back in. This is where the squidder comes in handy. Suppose a fish grabs the eel on the retrieve—as they usually do—he'll have the leverage to yank the eel off the hook before you can put the reel into free spool. Since the squidder has the two-way release, all you have to do is take your fingers off the reel handle, and the fish will be able to take line off the spool. At this point, you can put the reel into free spool and give the fish a runoff. Bass take an eel in one of two ways: the first is a straight pick-up and runoff, and other times, you'll get what I call the double runoff. On the first one, the fish simply grabs the eel and runs with it while it is trying to swallow it—all in one motion. In this case, all you do is let the fish run with the eel in free spool for seven to ten seconds, and then put the reel into gear. In the second situation,

you'll get the pick-up, and then the line will stop running out for a second or so. After a few moments, you'll get another runoff. This second runoff is the real thing. My theory on this is that in the first case, the bass has grabbed the snake head-first, and swallows him while he is running with it. In the second case, it seems that the fish may have grabbed the eel tail-first, or somewhere along the body and has difficulty trying to turn the eel head-first so that he can swallow it. The fish has the eel stunned in its powerful jaws, but has to release the eel for a second or so, so it can grab the eel and swallow it head-first, thus allowing for the break in the runoff.

Other areas where the weightless eel is used with good results, is along many of the South Shore bay areas where the eel is usually found in good numbers naturally. Eels like to run right up to the sides of many of the marsh banks to feed, and the bass are right behind them. The water is shallow in this area, and the current is often of minimal significance.

The second way in which the eel is fished, is by using some sort of lead drail or sinker to get the eel to the bottom. This method is favored when the water is deep and the current is fast. The same tackle can be used here as in the other case. The way the eel is rigged goes something like this: take a two or four ounce drail or trolling sinker and attach a three foot length of mono leader either forty or fifty pound test, to one of the open eyes of the drail. Attach the hook to the end of the leader, and then attach the terminal end of the mono line to the remaining open end of the drail.

For the most part, the bass will be lurking near the bottom, waiting for the food to come whistling by in the fast current. Hence, you want to present the eel as close as possible to the bottom under these conditions. You lower the eel to the bottom until you feel the sinker bump. Now take in a few turns of the reel so that the rig is just off the bottom. If you feel the sinker bump bottom, come up a few more turns. If the water gets deeper, drop the rig down again. The idea is to keep the rig near—but not on—the bottom. The sharpies keep their eyes glued to the recorder and watch for the dropoffs and ridges, and keep their baits near the bottom. These holes and hills on the bottom are where the fish can be found.

Usually, when the fish takes the weighted eel, he'll give you just the one pick-up rather than the double runoff. This type of rig is most effective when fishing some of the inlets, or around many of the South Shore bridges where the current is pretty stiff and the water fairly deep. Many of the bigger channels and deep holes behind Jones Beach also require the use of the sinker rig, except that in some cases, a one ounce weight can be substituted for the heavier lead.

Let's briefly take a look at the rigged eel, which when properly worked and prepared, is still a dynamite bait. While you can use eels of all sizes with good results when they are still squirming, only the biggest kind should be used for rigging—say the fourteen to sixteen inch jobs. Bass as small as five pounds have been taken on sixteen inch rigged eels. Just about every bass fisherman has his own way of rigging an eel, and all swear by it, but they are basically the same.

George Oliver shows 30 lb. bass taken on live eel.

The first thing you'll need is a bait rigging needle, which you can get at just about any tackle shop, and comes about sixteen inches long. The next thing you'll need is a couple of feet of 80 pound test mono leader and a couple of stainless steel hooks about 7/0 in size, along with a fourteen inch snake. Using the improved clinch knot, you attach the leader material to one of the hooks. Take the other end of the leader material and with a small piece of black electrical tape, tape it to the end of the rigging needle. Insert the needle somewhere into the tail of the eel and push it entirely through the body until it comes out around the head. Pull the needle from the eel and remove the electrical tape with the mono leader material. Now pull the mono leader until the hook is firmly snug in the tail region of the eel. You'll now have about twelve or so inches of the leader material left extending from the head of the eel. Take the other hook and insert through the eye, the remaining mono leader. You can either snell the top hook to the leader, or you can use whatever knot you want, as long as it's pretty strong. Pull the top hook firmly until it is just about even with the mouth of the eel. Trim the excess mono leader and you're in business. It takes a lot of practice, but once you start, it gets pretty easy along the way. You can tie the mouth of the eel shut with some thread, or a small rubber band.

Storing the eels is no big problem. The way we do it is simply take four or five eels and put them in some sort of heavy duty plastic container and then apply a heavy dose of kosher salt on each side. The salt shrivels the body up a bit, but after a few casts, the eel regains much of its natural appearance. The salt would make short work of regular tinned hooks, so it's a must that the stainless variety be used. Others like to use alcohol or formaldehyde to preserve the rigged eels, and this works also; but the salt treatment allows you to get away from those glass jars. Of course, if you have the time before each fishing trip, you can rig up fresh dead eels and not bother with the preserved specimens.

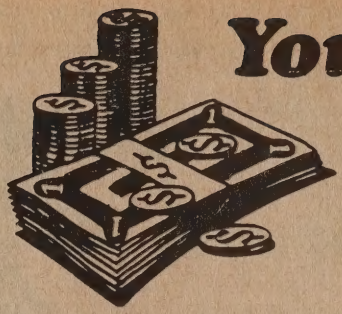
When long casts are needed, or when you want to work the eel close to the bottom, you can use a lead keel up in front instead of the plain hook. This is a hook that has a lead keel molded around it, similar to the lead head hooks used on the Alou eels. It pays to have a selection of both weighted and unweighted available to use, as the case may call for.

For the most part, the rigged eel is usually cast toward the rock jetties and panels of the South Shore, and many of the rocky areas around Montauk Point. It is not especially effective in the bays and creeks of the South Shore. It seems that the rigged eel loses its effectiveness away from rocky areas—although it can produce anywhere.

The rigged eel is cast and retrieved in varying manners, from very slow to fairly rapidly, until you get a hit. A lot of times during the retrieve, you'll get a bump on the eel. Usually a bass is making a swipe at the eel, but doesn't take it. The thing to do here is completely stop the retrieve and lower the rod tip, keeping the reel in gear. This moment's pause will allow the fish to take the eel and all you have to do is bring the rod tip up sharply and stick the fish.

There is much more to fishing rigged eels than can ever be written, which is why few fishermen—except for the sharpshooters—bother with it. I must admit that both preparation and use is a bit difficult, but nothing about bass fishing has ever been easy.

DON'T LET THIS ONE GET AWAY!



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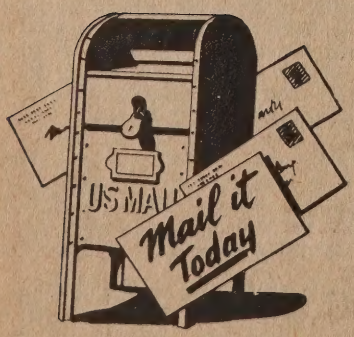

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported the porgy fishing as excellent with anglers taking up to 2 bags a man. The action is all over the areas around the Lighthouse and there are sea bass and fluke mixed in the catches. Rich said the night bluefishing off Block Island has been very good with anglers taking at least 8 to 10 fish a man. This is bait fishing with the herring and drail rig.

On Labor Day this reporter was having dinner at Gosman's Restaurant located on Montauk Inlet at about 8 in the evening when the brand new **Viking Starship** sailed through the jetties on a trial run. It was a remarkable sight to see virtually all of the diners stop eating to watch the super ship sail by and spontaneously break into applause. Only in America. Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** reported that the **Starship** is now on the daily run to Coxe's Ledge where the fishing has been slow. There are plenty of small cod in the area but not too many large ones. The new boat is also making special one day Nantucket Wreck trips. Call for details. The night bluefishing trips are also being run by the **Starship** skippered by the captain's son Paul Jr. The bluefishing has been excellent off of Block Island with virtually all of the fish monsters over 12 pounds. Anglers are getting a minimum of 8 to 10 a man and up. The **Viking Star** has been running all day porgy trips with excellent catches right in front of the Lighthouse. The **Viking Starlite** has been having very good fluke fishing on its half day trips fishing the Midway Rips. The fall run of big fluke is on and fish up to 16½ pounds were taken during the week in addition to many doormats of 8 to 10 pounds.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** called to say that Saturday a party of six from the NY City Transit Authority caught 150 bluefish on diamond jigs at the Sub Buoy and in the Triangle area. On Monday the party took 50 blues, 500 pounds of porgies at Great Eastern and a few fluke.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** said the porgy fishing hasn't faltered a bit and the fishing is still great with many more jumbos added to the catch each day. The jumbo porgies, however, are not all over. Bud noted that the customers using worms for bait have been really successful. Ed Miller of **West Lake Fishing Lodge** reported that the fall run of fluke has started on the south side and in the Rips at Midway. Ed said that Don Rock brought in the greatest catch of fluke he has seen in 15 years at Montauk. Fishing southeast of Midway with a friend 300 pounds of fluke were taken in one tide. The two largest doormats weighed 15 pounds each and there were many 8 to 10 pounds. Weakfish and all the bluefish you want are being taken diamond jigging and trolling in the Triangle area. Ed said that the boats fishing offshore have been doing an excellent job southeast of Block Island in 40 fathoms of water trolling school sized yellowfin tuna, bluefin tuna, bonito, albacore and white marlin. On Monday, the **Free Spirit** brought in a white marlin of 70 pounds. Bill Weyant on the private boat "Sand Piper" took a 63 lb. yellowfin tuna. Capt. Art Munday on the **Darius II** had 8 yellowfin tuna and bonito and albacore. Capt. Whitey Bateman on the **Four Queens** trolled 4 yellowfin tuna in the 50 lb. class. The charterboat **Mud Shark** had a one man charter who took two mako sharks and one brown shark. Ed was happy to report that the marriage of Jimmy George and his wife took place as planned on Sat. night at 7 P.M. in the cockpit of the "Craps II". The ceremony went off without a hitch. Ed also said that Bruce Kieffer, brother of Capt. Gary Kieffer of the charterboat **Barracuda** was working on the Alaska Pipeline recently and had his subscription to the Long Island Fisherman sent to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. He wanted to know if this is the furthest that our magazine was sent to—sorry Ed, we have a subscriber in Pakistan.

Capt. Dick Vigilant of the charterboat **Triton II** reported that the bluefishing at Montauk is fantastic during the day on diamond jigs and excellent at night with herring at Cartwright. On Saturday a party led by Mr. Sanzone loaded up with bluefish in the Triangle area using diamond jigs. On Sunday diamond jigs were again used for the bluefish with quite a few green bonito mixed in with the catch. Bluefishing at night at Cartwright with the herring bait has been excellent for real monsters in the mid teens. Dick is now booking day and night charters for this fantastic bluefishing for parties up to 25 anglers. Give Dickie a call for further information.

Bob Boyle nailed this 46 lb. bass on a Captain DeMaio tube jig aboard the "Vivienne." Total catch consisted of 54 blues to 18 lbs., and eight bass. Friends Dave and Gary assisted handsomely.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** called to say that some real quality catches are being made by the offshore fishermen. Two marlin were weighed in at Montauk's largest marina over the holiday weekend. The "Strike One" took one of 91 pounds and Frank Yakaboskie weighed in a

Mary Curreri of Brookhaven took this 762 lb. tuna aboard the boat For Pete's Sake out of Star Island Yacht Club.

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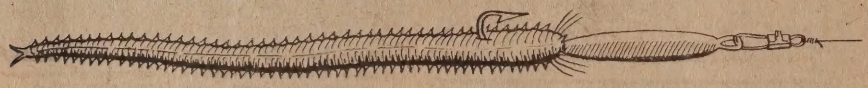

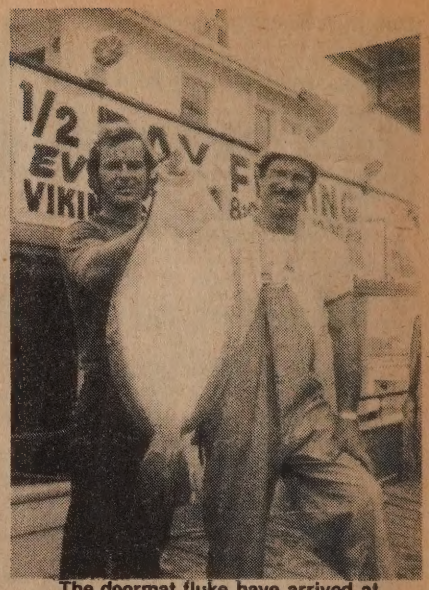

The doormat fluke have arrived at Montauk. Phil Garaway of Suffern N.Y. hefts the 11½ lb. doormat that he caught on the "Viking Starlite" recently. Capt. Charles Harned is on the left.

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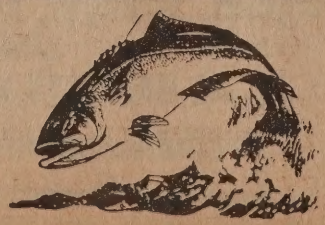

white marlin of 124 pounds, the largest fish to be taken on the east end this year that we know of. The "Culligan Man" took a 44 lb. wahoo, a rarity for these waters. The "Bumble Bee" has been making some great catches offshore. On Thurs., two mako sharks were bagged and on Sat. one mako was taken along with yellowfin tuna up to 45 pounds and one blue shark. Ronnie Goldberg on the "Bar Bar Jack" has been "doing it" to everyone at the yacht club again with his remarkable catches. Trolling feathers south of the Point on Saturday he took 14 yellowfin tuna with a combined weight of 682 pounds. Al on the "Friendship" has been doing a real number with the fluke at the Midway Rips and has taken doormats up to 16½ pounds. Jeff Steiner weighed in two doormats of 13 pounds each. The bluefish are in at Cartwright in full force taking the herring baits both day and night. Murray Roth on the "Lady Lee" slaughtered the fish there on Sunday.

The charterboat **Free Spirit** called to tell us that on Tuesday Dr. Terillo and son took 2, 250 lb. makos which both hit at the same time and were brought to the boat after a fit of jumping. On Wednesday Frank had a 200 lb. blue and a 120 lb. mako in 160' of water. On Thursday at Forty Fathoms Frank had a bonito and dropped a white marlin. Friday's trip to the Dumping Grounds resulted in two makos taken in twenty minutes plus twenty five blue shark which were tagged and released. Twenty to thirty blue shark were around the boat at all times. Sat. trip to Forty Fathoms resulted in a 270 lb. blue shark. Sundays trip to the Butterfish Hole resulted in a 40 lb. mako that's being mounted. On Monday Frank boated a white marlin and a brown shark. Frank says that he is now booking Oct. and Nov. dates. See ad for details.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station** reported that it was a good fishing holiday weekend. Fluke fishing is still good drifting at Nun buoy No. 2 off Hicks Island with several catches in the mid 20s. For some reason, Cartwright Island just isn't producing fluke this year as of yet. Art said that there is a large number of small bluefish in the two pound class in Gardiners Bay that are being

taken incidental to the fluke fishing or by those casting or trolling. Porgy fishing is steady and good at can 3 and off Gardiners with up to a bushel per man.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** happily called with the good news that there are plenty of weakfish being caught along with good catches of porgies and of course, snappers. Ernie Johnson and Charlie Moore Jr. of N.J. on Wednesday, went on the hook and had 17 weakfish, 50 porgies and some large snappers. They returned on Fri. and took 45 more weakfish. This was all on sandworms and squid. They fished between the monastery and Long Beach. Most of the rental skiffs are coming back with good catches.

SHINNECOCK

Mickey at **Altenkirch Tackle** reported that a few marlin were taken over the weekend in 120' of water south of Shinnecock Inlet. Bluefish is good for those trolling umbrella rigs outside the inlet in water anywhere from 40 to 90 feet deep. Fluke fishing in the bay has been good in all the channels and on Saturday one boat took 36 keepers. Snappers are all over the bay and in the Shinnecock Canal. Mickey noted that there are few blue claw crabs around.

Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. of the **Capt. Clark Fleet** reported that he fished a wreck in 80' of water outside of Shinnecock Inlet on Sat. and Sun. On Sat. the anglers did excellent with large sea bass and the first big porgies, signaling the start of the fall run. Sunday's fishing on the same wreck was poor due to the east wind and strong tide. Peconic Bay porgy fishing is still very good with a few big weakfish now mixed in. Clark said that one of the boats is now booking large group charters for fall fishing for blackfish and sea bass.

HAMPTON BAYS

Frank's Fishing Station reported that fluke fishing was fair on the weekend with 10 to 12 keepers per boat. Snappers are everywhere and are stealing fluke bait causing aggravation. Frieda Robson took a 7½ lb. doormat on Saturday. Best action has been around buoy 20 and the Ponquogue Bridge on incoming water using sand eel and squid combos.

Tony's Fishing Station reported fluke fishing is fair to good in the inlet with some

Rae & Ed Urban and Bertha and Nestori Pakin with fluke up to 10 lbs., taken on August 26. Photo courtesy of Gone Fishing Marina.

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Frank Riedlinger (L) caught this five pound fluke at Tadsen's Fishing Station on a live killie and squid combo along with his friend, Paul Leone and their fathers. They also had 14 good size keepers. Subscriber Club Photo.

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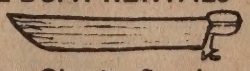

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nice sized fish mixed in. Sand eel, spearing or killie with a strip of squid are producing fish on both moving tides. Some very big flounder are right out in front of the station at buoy 21 and the action has been picking up. Once again, snappers are everywhere.

Jimmy at **Corr's Fishing Station** reported that the fluke fishing in Shinnecock Bay remained good this holiday weekend. Most boats took 8 to 15 keepers with many sharpies still bringing in 20 to 40 fish. Ten year old Louis Seeley landed a 4½ lb. fluke on a live snapper his first time fluke fishing. Best action occured in the East Channel by Shinnecock Inlet and the channel west of Shinnecock Inlet toward the Ponquogue Bridge. Sand eel or killie and squid combos have been getting good results. Snappers are good sized and are all over Shinnecock Bay. Peconic Bay is still yielding a good catch of small to medium sized porgies. Best action occured in the South Race off Robbins Island and Jimmy said to use either sand worm or fresh clams for bait.

MORICHES BAY

Cerrulo Brothers Fishing Station reported the fluke fishing has been fair to good with 8 to 12 keepers per boat. Best action on incoming water using either a killie or sand eel with squid for bait drifting in the inlet. Outgoing water has been producing good catches of fluke at buoys 36 and 39. Snappers and a few flounder are being taken off buoy 42 and the Brown House. A few weaks have also been taken in the same area.

Fluke fishing has been consistently good according to reports out of **Skidmore's Fishing Station.** Best action has been at the Elbow and in the inlet during the last two hours of the flood and the begining of the ebb. Flounder are being taken in Harts Cove off the Coast Guard Station and Fred Clark took the first catch of fall flounder on Friday, landing 8 fish in one hour. On Sat. Joe DeVita took 18 flounder on the bank of the hole northeast of buoy 42. On Monday Hank Schlanger fished the hole northeast of buoy 42 and scored with 3 bluefish, 6 weakfish, 22 sea bass, 4 porgies, and 6 fluke. There aren't too many blue claw crabs around but those that are being taken are BIG. Snappers are in Shinnecock Bay in full force and are absolutely ferocious.

East Moriches Bait and Tackle reports that on Friday Tony Rizzo on the "Nino" had 19 skipjack from 8 to 12 pounds, a 16 lb false

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albacore and a 19 lb. bluefin tuna fishing 105' of water southwest of Moriches Inlet. Stan Saneski and Byron Formahls had 3 skipjack from 8 to 11 pounds and a dolphin fishing the same area. Don Clark on his boat "Sea Horse" had a 14 lb. 3 oz. and a 15 lb. 2 oz. tunny along with 6 skipjack from 8 to 12 pounds and two four pound bonito fishing 85' of water southwest of Moriches Inlet. Fred Minion had 6 bluefish from 10 to 14 pounds fishing in 65' of water on umbrella rigs. Ron, John and Ken on the "Star Trek" took 19 skipjack along with several blues and dolphin. All of these catches have been on green and yellow and on red and white feathers. Seven weaks up to 8 pounds were taken on white Trifins by Walt McAuffie in Seatuck Cove, just north of buoy 42. One to two pound snapper blues have been taken at buoy 42 and in Seatuck Cove. Mike Kijowski bagged a 14 lb. 7 oz. yellowfin tuna in 80' of water southeast of the inlet. Some bass are being trolled on umbrellas along with weaks just outside of the inlet.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports large fluke and large snappers taken this week and weekend from Buoy 15 to 19 on spearing, sand eels and squid. A good catch of fluke was made on Saturday on the **Julie J** fishing on the flats with sand eels and squid on the south side of the drains at buoy 17. The "Sea Mist" got a 60 lb. bluefin tuna and a dozen skipjack fishing 150 degrees from the inlet in 120' of water on red and white feathers and Cedar jigs. Crabbing is slow. A few small weaks and school bass have been taken on squid strips fished on the bottom at the bridge. Some blues on the west side of the inlet on tins. The "Leatherneck" on Thurs. night had 18 bluefish between 10 and 12 pounds taken on trolled Lupo bunker spoons and umbrellas in 50' of water.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports that Dave Crocco, and Mike Gardiner had 30 weakfish, kings, fluke and blowfish on squid along with 20 big snappers this week. Most of the catch was made up of weakfish. This was off Lasalle. Willie Soto and two pals had 22 weaks, 20 blows, five kings and a load of big snappers fishing the same area with squid strips. Not to be outdone, Jim Jones fishing the same area, with squid, nailed 60 weakfish this past week. Best places to duplicate this action is off Sayville in the shell beds in 10 feet of water as close as you can get to the working dredges and clam diggers. All the clammers are catching fish incidental to their clam digging. As they do, just let a Salty Dog bump along the bottom. Lots of fish are hooking themselves. Sandworm and clam baits are working also. Vinnie was very enthusiastic about the volume of fish available right now.

Marty at **South Bay Fishing Station** reports lots of weaks and fluke mixed at buoy 29 inside the channel on squid. Blowfish in Nichol Bay and the hole southwest of buoy 24 on clam and squid. Kingfish at buoy 30 on clam. Doc Pine, Irv Schwartzman and Gene

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Bosovitch had 63 weaks, 30 blows and 6 kings at buoy 29 on squid.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports fluking very good on Sat. west of buoy 13 in F.I. Inlet on sand eels and squid, with 15 to 20 keepers per private boat a good average. Snappers are very good on small tin and small spearing. Big weakfish in the hole off the Lighthouse on live snappers. A few blackfish on the inside reef on clam with some blows mixed in. Bonito in 120' of water, 155 degrees out of the inlet on feathers, colors red and white, black and white and yellow and white. Football tuna in the area of the NB buoy on red and white feathers.

CAPTREE

The **Capt. Ben Litwin** reported fluke fishing fair on the weekend with catches of 7 to 8 fish

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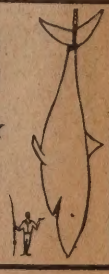

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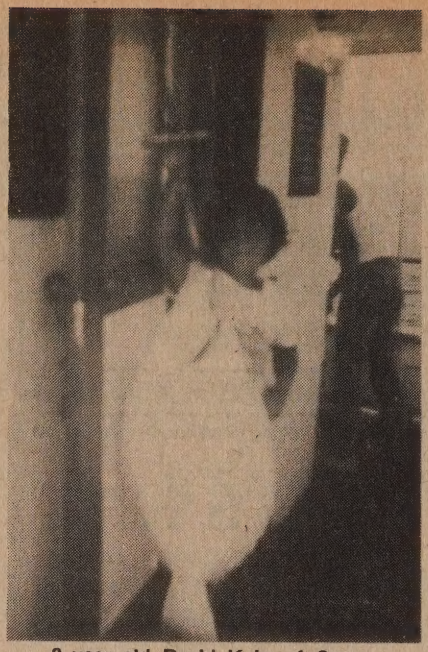


8 year old David Kahr of Ocean Beach caught this 12 lb. 8 oz. fluke to take the pool on the Captree charterboat "Lady Ann."

per man and the high hook about 12. The fish are nice sized and it's a slow, steady pick all day. Best action has been around the bridge and by the Sore Thumb.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported that the bluefishing was excellent on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights and was good daytime on Friday and Saturday but was down on Sunday for some reason. The fish run in all sizes ranging from 3 to 16 pounds. Speedy noted that during the daytime only Ava diamond jigs and banana lures are working and those anglers who insist on using bait are getting virtually nothing, but the bait is producing fish at night. Speedy asks us to say that he will be running his next tilefish trip leaving Sunday at midnight on Sept. 18th. Call 661-1652 for reservations.

The Lady Ann reports that the fluking has been good to excellent and the bluefishing has been excellent to total slaughter. On Thurs. 8 year old Dave Kahr took the pool with a 12 lb. 8 oz. fluke. On Sunday 32 men had over 200 fluke. This was all on sandeels and squid. Wed. night saw seventeen men take 117 big blues. On Friday night 20 fares boated 211 blues. Saturday night saw 20 men again bail 351 bluefish. Sunday afternoon's 4 P.M. reservation saw 17 fares decking 203 blues. Capt. Neil still has openings for the Friday night and Sunday afternoon reservation bluefish trips. He says there is a huge body of fish in the area and the fishing is best at night.

Our congratulations to Capt. Walter Specht of the **Lady Ann** and his wife, who gave birth this past week to a 7 lb. 6 oz. baby girl who they have named Jodie. Best wishes from LIF Staff.

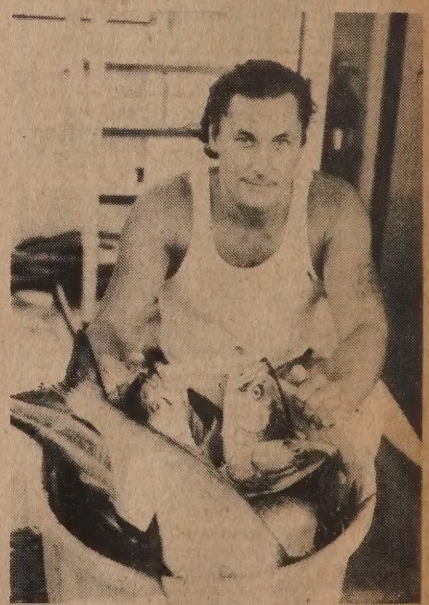
BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle reports a lot of ten pound bonito and albacore and tuna to 35 pounds in the area of the NB buoy which is 12 to 14 miles off the inlet, 150 degree heading. Red and white feathers are working best with yellow-green and black-white a close second. Spoons squids, Cedar jigs and mackerel colored Cedar jigs are also taking fish. Fluking is holding up in the bay and inlet mainly on squid and sand eels. On Monday, very big porgies were weighed in, taken from in front of the Lighthouse on killies and squid. Doug Grabbow of Babylon, age 12, had a 2 lb. 7 oz. and a 2 lb. 8 oz. porgy plus 5 big fluke. This was off the Lighthouse on clam and squid respectively. For fluke, high incoming is best, followed by the first couple of hours of the ebb. Don Marino of Commack was fortunate enough to catch a 95 lb. stingray in Snake Hill Channel. Snappers and blowfish are readily available in most spots.

Mario at **Hi-Hook Fishing Station** says the fluking was fair this past week with the best action being in Snake Hill Channel and the State Channel on sand eels and squid. Ted Kessel of No. Babylon had 50 plus porgies, 4 weakfish, one large sea bass and 17 blowfish taken in the Ferry Boat Channel on clam and squid, Monday. Tom and Pat Zemi took a 3½ lb. fluke at Snake Hill on sand eels. School weakfish are also being taken on squid in these same areas, fished on the bottom.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports super snapper fishing just about every place you turn as evidenced by Joey G and family bagging over 90 of these baby bluefish fishing Steam Boat Channel. Best areas for the snappers are Steam Boat, Hemlock Cove, the State Channel and Fox Creek. These babies are around ¾ of a pound, roughly 11 to 12 inches long. They are taking live killies, Johnson Sprites and you can really clean up by using bunker chum. Fluking was better Friday, Sat. and Sun. and has been best in the inlet itself on sand eels and squid. Very little bass news. Southeast of the inlet, tuna,



John Forster with his bucket of 23, seven to twelve pound bluefish caught on diamond jigs and green bananas aboard the "Speedy VI" on August 1st at the Three Sisters wreck.

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bonito and albacore are responding to red and white feathers trolled anywhere from 105 to 135 feet. As for blackfish, 22 of these were taken on the inside artificial reef up to 5 pounds by one customer this week, using fiddlers. John says that his supply of fiddlers is in so he can handle blackfish fanatics. A few flounders are starting but it is still a little early on worms and small pieces of clam. Weakfishing has been spotty with live snapper working best. Fred Cameron of the Babylon Tuna Club on Sat. nailed a 920 lb. tiger shark.

Duke's Bait and Tackle reports mucho snappers just about all over the place on small tins, and small baitfish. Blacks are strong at the Meadowbrook Bridge and the inside artificial reef on fiddlers. Also, decent sized porgies and sea bass are at these same locations on squid or clam. Fluking over the weekend was fair, with best in the afternoon on incoming. Some large fluke on live snappers, five pounds and better. Large weaks on live snapper also from the Sore Thumb to the old lighthouse. Alas, crabbing remains poor. Bluefish are being trolled and chummed. From the 100 foot mark on out seems best. Bonito, tuna and albies are hottest on red and white feathers and Cedar jigs from 140 to 165 degrees out of F.I. Inlet in 90 to 120' of water. The surf is slow with stripers still to come.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait and Tackle reports fluke action good all week and weekend as evidenced by customer Joe Ruzzo bagging a 6 lb. 14 oz. fluke on a live snapper plus 14 other keeper fluke. A lot of fluke catches in the teens were brought in by customers all week with the larger fish hitting on snappers. Best areas were Fire Island Inlet and the State Channel where weakfish also took an occasional snapper bait. Porgies and blowfish have been taken at the Copiague Hole and the Amityville Cut on squid and clam. Kismet Reef is producing blacks up to 2 pounds on fiddlers. Big patches of jumbo bluefish are being found and exploited wherever you can find them out of the inlet on bananas and jigs during the day. Some bass are being taken on bellies at the bridges. Snappers are abundant on shiners and small tins.

SEAFORD

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports that the rental skiffs are still bringing in fluke from Four Corners, Massapequa Cove and the bridge areas using killies, squid and sand eels. Small flounders and porgies are responding to clam and worm baits.

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports still plenty of fluke around though it wasn't red hot this past week. Snappers are big and plentiful and make choice doormat fluke baits. Porgies and sea bass are hitting clam and worm at the bridges, Zach's Bay and off Massapequa. Weaks at the bridge and in the inlet on snappers.

BELLMORE

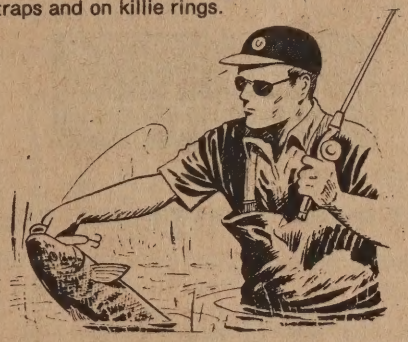
Scott at **Merrick Marine Supplies** tells us that flounders are picking up on clam and worm in Merrick's Rowboat Alley, Nick's Pt. and the various creeks behind Freeport and Merrick. The best fluking now is going to those who anchor and chum with bunker chum and fish a squid strip on the bottom. Snapper activity is very strong on spearing and small shiny lures. Bluefishing is very good offshore approximately at the 160' mark and out south of Jones Inlet.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports tuna, albacore, and bonito south of the NB. This is mainly on red and white feathers and Cedar jigs. Live snappers fished from one of the rental skiffs at the end of Swift Creek did in an 11 lb. 4 oz. fluke for a W. Hempstead named Steve Schumacker. Fluking was fair over the weekend with best action in the inlet and at the Coast Guard Station on live killies. Broad and Haunts Creeks are still holding fish and snappers are all over the place. Weakfish are at the inlet and the Coast Guard Station from 5 to 8 pounds on live snapper. Small two pound blues have been diamond jigged in 30' of water just outside the inlet. A few flounders at Swift Creek and the Meadowbrook Bridge on clam or worm. Porgies in any deep hole and at the bridges on squid.

BALDWIN

Arthur St. Fishing Station reports some weaks being taken in the inlet on live snapper. Fluke have been taken this past week and weekend in Reynolds Channel and in Jones Inlet up to 6 pounds on snappers and smelts. Crabs are showing in the back bays in traps and on killie rings.



Charlie Metzger, formerly of Huntington and now living in Florida, is on one end of a fly rod that has a 60 lb. tarpon on the other. Charlie was fishing on the guide boat "Don's Corner", owned and operated by Don Miller, the first managing editor of the L.I. Fisherman.

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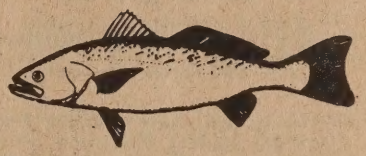

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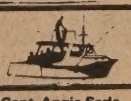

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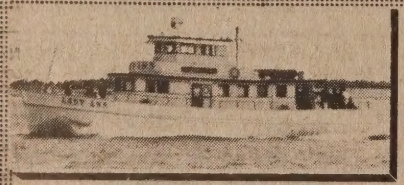

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—Senior Citizen Rates Weekdays—
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CAPTREE

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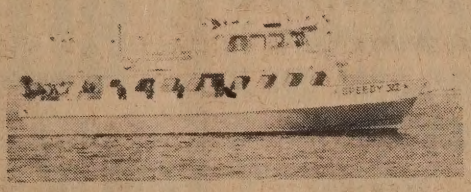
On Right Side of Dock **BLUES DAILY 7AM & 7PM**

"It costs no more to sail first class!"

BLUES 7 AM ★ TACKLE AVAIL.



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★ AFTERNOON ★
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JOSEPH II 3:30 PM DAILY
Dates Available for Nite Bluefish Charters and Moonlight Sails

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22 MAN LIMIT—*Fishing One Side Only!*
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Bait & Tackle Supl.—Lands End Mar. Sayville
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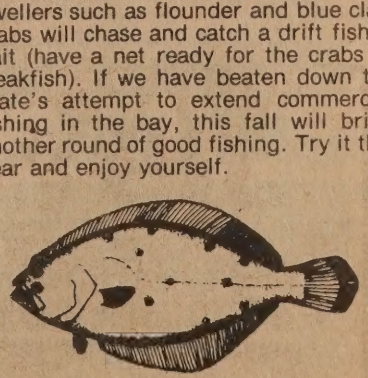
GREAT SOUTH BAY
(Continued from page 15.)

you go out in a small boat. The bay can become very rough in a short while. Sheltered water may be available in Great River near Oakdale if the weather changes during the day and you do not want to give up early.

Anyone who has light tackle and is not a confirmed big fish hunter, will enjoy a day of fast action with these fish. You never know what the next catch will be, and even so-called sedentary bottom dwellers such as flounder and blue claw crabs will chase and catch a drift fished bait (have a net ready for the crabs or weakfish). If we have beaten down the State's attempt to extend commercial fishing in the bay, this fall will bring another round of good fishing. Try it this year and enjoy yourself.



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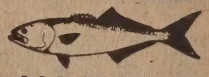

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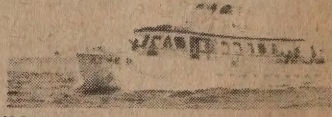

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports some super bottom fishing one hour and 15 minutes from the inlet with good sized catches of giant ling with an odd sea bass, cod, and pollack mixed in. Also this past week a 9 lb. hake was taken aboard the boat. The night bluefishing trips have produced excellent results fishing one hour from the inlet over the weekend. On Sunday night's bluefish trip LIF Staffer Stu Miller got his weekly "bluefish fix" once again. With Capt. Chris Specht at the wheel and approximately 65 passengers, Chris put all into a large body of savage blues all 6 to 12 pounders. The customers had more action than they could handle with fish being worked all over the boat and gaffs getting a real work out. Our L.I.F. representative ended up with 16 choppers and tired arms. Approximately 400-500 big blues were decked that night.

The **Capt. Al** reports that bluefishing has been fantastic. On Sunday he fished the Three Sisters wreck and loaded up with bluefish along with some albacore and bonito. Over the weekend, he also fished south-southeast of Cholera and did a good job jigging blues from 8 to 12 pounds. Total catches on Saturday ran about 350 fish and about 200 fish on Sunday.

The **Aloma II** reports good fluke fishing on Saturday and Monday and excellent fishing on Sunday. Fares went home with at least 10 pounds of fillet. The fish were taken in Jones Inlet on sand eels, spearing and squid and pool fish ran up to 4½ pounds. The **Aloma** did good on sea bass and ling with some blackfish starting fishing the local wrecks over the weekend. Some porgies were also mixed in with his catches.

The **Bluefin II** mohawked the bluefish on Sunday fishing southeast of Cholera. Fish from 4 to 9 pounds were hitting bananas and jigs with some being taken with chum. On Monday the boat was fluke fishing and

Shelly Levine and his party landed these big bluefish weighing from 10 to 14 pounds, trolling south of the HA buoy aboard Captain Arnold's charterboat "Shalidon."

totaled 150 keepers fishing the Jones Inlet area. Sand eels, squid and snapper strips were used on incoming tide to produce 7 to 8 fish per person with high catches of 10 to 12 fish had. The **Bluefin** fished south of Cholera on Saturday and took 2 brown sharks 40 to 50 pounds, bonito and small blues.

Jackie at **Hook, Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle** tells us that snappers are wall to wall and tree top tall up to one pound hitting on anything and everything. Lots of sand porgies and lafayettes in the canals, bays and off the docks. School weaks and blues in the inlet on snappers and umbrellas. Porgies are being taken in holes on sandworms. Try weaks at the bridges on snappers or worm on a three foot leader fished three feet off the bottom. Jim Gallagher on his boat "Creedence" took several weaks from 5 to 7 pounds along with two small blues on umbrellas over the weekend. This was in 25' of water between the inlet and the JB needle. Jim's wife by the merest coincidence gave birth to a baby that morning. Some nice sized flounder taken off the waterfront park, off Woodcleft Canal bulkhead and various canal mouths on sandworm.

Greg at **Sea Isle Sports** reports loads of tuna, skippies, bonito and albies in the area of the NB buoy on feathers of the red and white variety and also on Cedar jigs. The inlet

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Shown here is Donald Thompson with a 28 lb. silver hake which he caught aboard the "Starstream II" on one of his offshore wreck trips. Donald took the pool and also had some sea bass and loads of ling on the trip.

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The Fisherman
...all the news of
fish in print.

mouth was hot on Wednesday with weaks hitting live snappers. Snappers are thick and big catches may be had very easily on small baits and artificials. Fluke are being taken inside the inlet with snapper baits working best. Offshore bluefishing for the open boats has been action at the Three Sisters and south of the HA buoy. No bass reports. The big news all week has been the weakfish being taken on snappers. Weaks and small blues being jigged and trolled just outside the inlet.

The **Shalidon** reports that last Tuesday a party from Baldwin trolled up 55 bluefish and that last Saturday it was also bluefish that his party trolled south of the NB.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports tons of snappers on small spearing or killies and the snappers are making it hard to get through to the fluke. However, when you can get through to the fluke, catches are running from 8 to 12 keepers per rental boat. Weakfish on live snapper or sand worm at the bridges and in the inlet. One customer out for fluke in one Tony's skiffs came back with 24 keepers taken in the local back creeks. Some nice sized flounder are being taken on sand worms at the Meadowbrook bridge along with spots and porgies. Swift Creek and Short Beach are also producing flounders now. Two men had 30 flounder in their skiff after a trip to Short Beach. The August fluke pool was won by Art Sherwood with an 8 lb. 6 oz. fluke.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports that Mel Wolff of Oceanside took an 11 lb. fluke while fishing for weakfish with snapper bait in the mouth of the inlet. Weakfish are hitting snapper bait in the mouth of the inlet and at the Meadowbrook Bridge. Some of the fish are also being taken on sand eels. There is a tremendous amount of snappers, sand porgies and lafayettes at the Loop Bridge, Meadowbrook Bridge, buoy 16 and 18 and the golf course. The Coast Guard area and Swift Creek continue to produce flounder on worms. Blues were taken in 20 to 25 feet of water in the inlet on jigs.

Scotty's Marina reports that fluke are being taken at Reynolds Channel and Jones Inlet on the usual baits. Snappers are plentiful and can be had at the Old Town Dock. Weakfish are being taken in the inlet, at the Coast Guard Station and at Jones Beach on snappers and large killies. Weakfish from 5 to 14 pounds and some larger were taken. As the report was being taken over the phone Tuesday morning Irv Grossman and Al Dellilo came into the station with 23 blues from 3 to 7 pounds taken trolling umbrellas in Jones Inlet. Blackfish are being taken offshore at the T wreck and Roto wreck. Flounder from ½ to 1¼ pounds are being taken at the change of tide at the Coast Guard Station.

ISLAND PARK

Beckmann's Tackle reports fluking has been good on both Sat. and Sun. in Jones

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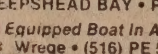

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Inlet on squid and sand eels. A lot of fish are being taken on the incoming tide from keeper size up to 6 pounds. Snappers are all over from Oceanside to Reynolds Channel. Porgies by the load can be found in the bay. Blackfish are getting off to a start at the bridges on fiddler crabs which will be carried by this tackle shop by the weekend.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports that porgies and lafayettes are taking worms at the North and South Channel Bridges and at Beach Channel Drive. Fluke averaging 16 to 17 inches are hitting killies, squid, spearing and sand eels at Riis Park.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Local sharpie Guy DeBlasio called during the week to relay an excellent catch he made of 22 false albacore to 12 pounds and five to six pound skipjack. Guy is an inovator, and picked up a can of fresh spearing in the Fulton Fish Market. Chumming with moss-bunker, Guy would feed a handful of spearing into the chum slick occasionally and use the spearing for bait. Guy said you had to use small hooks tied directly to your line which shouldn't be more than 20 lb. test. Then the baited hook is fed into the current the same way as when clam chumming. He said that the albacore were taking the bait when it was only about 6 inches under the surface.

Capt. Joe Miller of the **Atomic II** reports fluking was very good all week except for Sat., with high hook of 30 fluke for one man during the week, average catches being 5 to 9 fluke per man, with some anglers filling a five gallon bucket each. The fluking is being done at Ambrose. Monday's pool fish went 7 pounds 8 ounces but in the main these are 15 to 16 inch fish. The night bluefish trips on the **Atomic II** have been excellent with the exception of one night late in the week when it was just fair. The night blues are strictly a bait and chum affair.

Stella Maris Bait and Tackle reports weaks and blues being trolled on umbrellas at the Tin Can. Fluke being taken on the black side of Ambrose and off Riis Park on sand eels, squid and spearing. Plenty of albies, bonito and bluefish at the Three Sisters. Sandworms are taking porgies at the Tin Can. Plenty of snappers inshore on small baitfish and on small tins.

The **Chief** reports that fluking was good on Saturday fishing south of Ambrose and at the Tin Can Grounds average catch of half dozen fish to one and a half pounds taking spearing. Pool fish ran up to 3 to 4 pounds. On Fri. and Sat. the boat fished the Klondike area for blues and fish up to 15 pounds were taken on smelts and bunker chum.

The **New Zephyr** reports very good fishing over the past weekend. Big porgies from 1½ to 2 pounds were taken locally at the Tin Can Grounds and Riis Park. Customers fill at least a five gallon pail each. One pound and bigger sea bass were also taken along with some blackfish.

The **New Eagle** reports good fluking on Monday. Bill Tompson took the pool with a 4½ to 5 lb. fluke. The fishing was done at the Tin Can and on the black side of the channel. Practically all the fish were keepers and from there ran up to 5 pounds. There was also very good bluefishing on Sat. night at the Three Sisters wreck. Fish from 4 to 6 pounds were taking bait and chum.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that the surf action for blues has been good at South Beach, Fort Wadsworth and Berger Avenue. Fort Wadsworth is producing fish at daybreak on plugs, especially poppers. The other two areas produce better on bait during the last two hours of outgoing, slack and the first two hours of incoming. The fish are averaging 9 to 15 pounds and are a steady pick. Great Kills Park is producing blues from 4 to 6 pounds on bait at the jetty. The fishing here has been unpredictable. Princess Bay is producing 2 to 4 lb. blues at Joline Avenue at low tide on small Hopkins, Kastmasters and popping plugs. Great Kills Harbor is producing weakfish from 5 to 8 pounds in the back on plugs and Kastmasters. Lafayettes and snappers can be taken all along the Staten Island coast. Sand porgies can be had at the piers. Crabbing has been very disappointing. Princess Bay is producing bluefish trolling umbrellas, single tubes and Pet spoons. These fish are averaging 3 to 5 pounds. Hoffmans Island and South Beach are producing 9 to 15 lb. blues on bunker spoons with an occasional bass or weakfish mixed in.

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Contest Rules & Regulations

1. DATES-- The Contest will begin at midnight on May 1st and end at midnight on October 31st, 1977. Fish must be caught during this time frame and be confirmed as a new World Record by the International Gamefish Association (I.G.F.A.) no later than February 1st, 1978.

2. ENTRY FEE--There is no entry fee to participate in the Contest. The only requirement is that you MUST have been a subscriber of The Long Island Fisherman for at least 30 DAYS before the date that a fish was caught. Immediate members of a subscriber's family are also eligible if they are living together in the same household. Example: Mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, son.

3. ELIGIBLE SPECIES--The Contest has ten (10) eligible species: five inshore and five offshore. They are:

Inshore--	Offshore--
FLUKE	BLUE SHARK
WEAKFISH	MAKO SHARK
STRIPED BASS	WHITE SHARK
BLUEFISH	SWORDFISH
BLACKFISH	WHITE MARLIN

4. RULES--The winner of the Contest will be determined by fish caught by subscribers of The Long Island Fisherman that are recognized as new World Records by the I.G.F.A. The following rules will apply:
   a. Fish must be one of the ten eligible species
   b. Catch must be made sometime between midnight May 1st and midnight October 31st, 1977.
   c. Fish must be taken in Long Island Waters.
   d. All catches must be made under the rules and regulations set up by the I.G.F.A. These rules and regulations will be printed in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman, and will be available after that date for any angler sending in a self-addressed envelope to The Fisherman.
   e. The catch must be CONFIRMED as a new World Record by the I.G.F.A. by February 1, 1978.
   f. New records can be for any of the I.G.F.A. line classes: 6-lb., 12-lb., 20-lb., 30-lb. 50-lb., 80-lb., 130-lb., or All Tackle, for both Men and Women.

5. WEIGH-STATIONS--Any of the Long Island Fisherman Official Weigh-in Stations may be used for a PRELIMINARY weigh-in of a possible world

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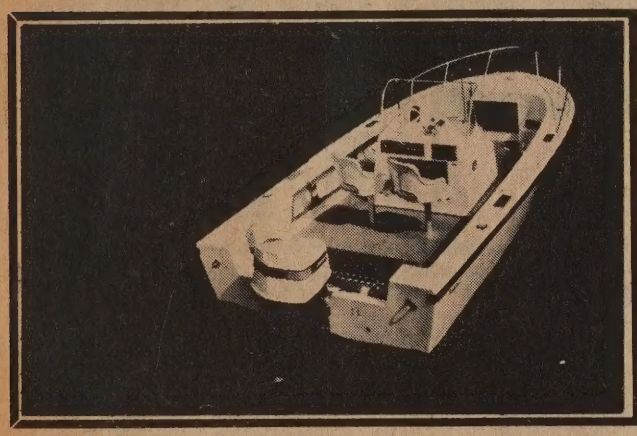

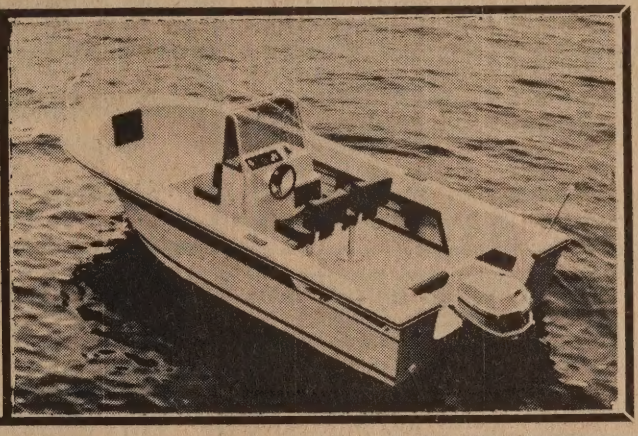

record fish. If it appears that the fish is a possible record, it must then be OFFICIALLY weighed in at STARFISH MARINE in East Islip, New York. After the Official Weigh-In Starfish Marine will prepare the necessary record applications that must be sent to the I.G.F.A. It is the anglers responsibility to transport his catch to and from Starfish Marine.

6. CURRENT RECORDS--For the convenience of eligible anglers, the current recognized records by the I.G.F.A. will be published in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman. Periodic updates of new records set while the contest is in progress will also be published in the pages of The Fisherman.

7. TIES--In the event that more than one subscriber sets a new World Record, the winner will be decided by the following criteria:
   a. The angler setting the most I.G.F.A. records during the contest will be the winner.
   b. In the event that no angler sets more than one record, but two or more anglers set a single record, the following point system will be utilized to place the winners:
      1. One point will be scored for each percentage point that the new record beat the previously held record, based on weight. Example: If the new record is 25 lbs. and the old record was 20 lbs., the new record is 25% more weight. Score 25 points.
      2. One point will also be scored for every year that prior record existed. Example: If the old record was set in May 1967 and the new record is set in 1977, score 10 points.

8. PRIZES--The Grand Prize will be the winners choice of a 1978 Grady White Center Console or a Mako 20, which will be awarded by Starfish Marine. If more than one new I.G.F.A. approved World Record is set, there will be a consolation prize for the 2nd highest point fish of $500, 3rd highest $250 and $50 for each additional record.

9. JUDGES--The decision of the judges will be final.

10. Employees of Starfish Marine or The Long Island Fisherman and their immediate family members are prohibited from participating in the Contest. Anglers that have had an article published in The Fisherman within the past three years are also ineligible.

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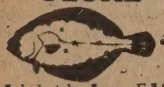

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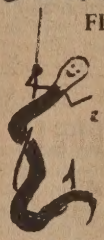

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Capt. Artie Lach of the **Wilhelric** tells us that the porgy fishing remains fantastic—that it couldn't be better. Fishing clam baits fares are averaging 60 to 80 fish per man with some going over 100 fish. These are all large and jumbos and they are fishing the Sound and Gardiners. There has been a noticeable improvement in the blackfishing as well.

Art at **A.P. White Bait Shop** reported blues running hot and cold. Dusk and dawn are the best times and a variety of techniques are working. Porgies are thick at Green Hill over by Gardiners Island. Last week there was some flounders showing off Orient Pt. Still some weakfish are being caught in the channel at Greenport Harbor. Striper fishing was a little better last week for fellows trolling tubes at little Gull Island.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that porgies are being taken in the bay at buoys 12, 17, 18, South Ferry, Cedar Pt, and at Gardiners Island. The fish are mostly mediums of about a pound with some smaller fish mixed in. Bigger porgies can be found in the Sound at Petty's Bite, Terry Pt., and Rocky Pt. Small blacks from 2 to 3 pounds are being caught at Orient Pt. Light and at the rocks near Orient. There is a slow pick of blues at buoy 3 in the Sound. Fluke from 3 to 4 pounds are hitting sand eels and shiners at Gardiners. Weakfishing in the bay has dyed off considerably. Flounder are taking clams at the Ferry Landing at Orient Pt. and at the State Park. These fish are running from 1 to 1½ pounds.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports weakfish up to 4 pounds are taking sand worms at Rose's Grove and Nassau Pt. Catches of up to 22 fish per man were had. Customers have been coming into the station with buckets of porgies from ¾ to 1¼ pounds taken south of buoy 25 on worms. Some nice sized kingfish are being taken at Nassau Pt. Snappers continue to be concentrated in this area.

James Grayson, William Parker and Frank Nieves with 36 weakfish taken south of Nassau Point - Buoy 22, with squid and sandworms. The weakfish ran from two to seven pounds and over 100 porgies to 1-1/2 pounds were also taken. Photo courtesy of Captain Marty's Fishing Station.

Irv Friedman and William Catti with the first four flounders taken on the east side at Orient Ferry, drifting with clams. They took 30 fish which ran up to 1-1/4 lbs. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Fishing Station.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reports lots of porgies being taken in this area of mixed sizes. Most fish are hitting sand worms and the Sound is producing the bigger fish. Weakfish are taking whole sandworms on a high hook in Rose's Grove and South Race. The fish are averaging 2½ to 3 pounds with some running up to 4. Snapper are all over in the bay and in the Sound. Striped bass are taking sandworms at night off the local beaches. These fish are averaging 8 and 9 pounds.

JAMESPORT

Jamesport Bait and Tackle reports that porgies are still around and can be caught up to 2 pounds at Nassau Pt. on worms. Weakfish are plentiful and running up to 4 pounds from Southold to Robbins Island. These fish are taking sandworms and squid with some caught on sand eels. Blackfishing is getting better and better at the pipelines with fish from 6 to 7 pounds taking hermits, greens and fiddler crabs. Porgies and snappers are all over the Sound. Blues from 4 to 5 pounds are being trolled in the Sound with Rebels.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Pt. Fishing Stop reports that snappers and porgies are all over the area. Bluefishing has gotten better fishing 300 to 400 yards off the beach from Cedar to Miller Pt. Beach. Fish are averaging 5½ pounds and running to 7 pounds and are hitting Sekora tubes. Fluke are being picked up at buoy 4—Mt. Misery Shoals on sand eels, squid, snapper fillets and spearing. Blackfishing is picking up along the North Shore beaches. A few big bass have been taken on live eels from Shoreham to Wading River.

SELDEN

Ken at **Angler's Den** reported big blues

Patricia Morgese took this nine pound weakfish in the South Race on a pink shrimp lure. Subscriber Club Photo.

were around Stratford Shoals, Middle Grounds and from Cedar Beach to buoy 9. Size range was from 3 to 10 pounds. A few stripers were taken at Miller Place Beach. Blackfish are starting to make a showing now. The monthly top anglers for August are: Jimmy Hynes IV for a 10 lb. weakfish; George Grosselfinger for a 29 lb. 2 oz. bass; Jack Evans for a 6 lb. fluke; Mike Savran for a 14 lb. 12 oz. bluefish. Kenny also announced that **Anglers Den** is opening a second shop in Moriches, **Anglers Den South**, on Montauk Highway around September 15th. Congratulations and best wishes, Ken!

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports good porgy fishing straight off the harbor and at buoys 9 to 11 on worms and clams. The fish are averaging 1 pound but are running up to 2½. Fluke fishing is fair at buoys 9 and 11 with fish hitting squid, sand eels, and snappers for bigger fish. Blues are being trolled at buoys 9 and 11 with umbrellas, tubes and some fishermen use bucktails. Bigger fish are also being caught at the Middle Grounds.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reported bluefish available for those willing to work for them. Dawn and dusk are the best times using wire and umbrella rigs. Try fishing at various depths and using different speeds. Jim Doley steadily brings in 30 to 40 blues on his outings. Buoy 9 and Miller Place Beach are good ground with the majority of fish taken in the 2-3 lb. neighborhood. Old Field Pt. is still the best bet for porgies. There is still some fluke at Mt. Misery Shoals but this fish looks to be on its way out.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports the porgy fishing held up well over the long weekend but the other species were mostly noticeable by their absence. Some school blues were found about 2 miles off the mouth of the river and a few fluke were caught by those with plenty of patience. On Saturday Emanuel Karalis of Queens took 2½ bushels of porgies for his party of three in a rental boat off Callahan's on sandworms and clams. On Sunday Wally Oakland trolled eight blues

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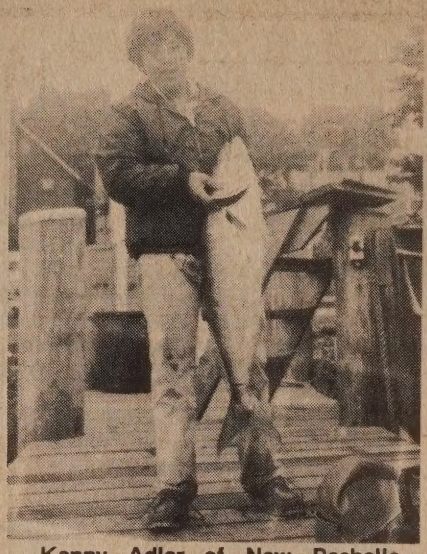
James Haynes, IV, caught this weakfish which weighed 10 pounds gutted using a white bucktail off Shelter Island. Photo courtesy of Angler's Den.



Kenny Adler of New Rochelle caught this 14 lb. 14 oz. blue in the Race while fishing aboard the "Hel-Cat" which sails out of Groton, Ct. It took the pool for the day and puts Kenny in an early lead in the Hel-Cat seasonal bluefish contest.

Charles Matson with an 8 lb. 12 oz. fluke taken on an umbrella rig at Callahan's Beach. Photo courtesy of Mae's Way Fishing Station.

at daybreak on wire line and surgical tubes in 100' of water north of the mouth of the river. Tuesday 13 year old Frankie DiPalo caught a 6½ lb. bluefish on a bunker chunk off Callahan's.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reported between 7 and 7:30 A.M. last Sat. the bluefish were in heavy at Mackimah Beach. The school moved in and out quickly and went into the harbor several times as well. Bluefish from 10 pounds and better were taken last week at buoy 11B by those willing to work and use varied techniques. Going down very deep with wire lines produced an average of three to four fish per day if you put the time in. Weakfish from 6-7 pounds are still being taken at dusk and dawn by trolling spinners and worms close to shore. Fluke were taken between Can 13 and Lloyds Pt. by drifting squid and shinner combos with 4 ounces of lead to keep the bait on the bottom. Some five to eight pound fish were taken that way. Striper action was very minimal last week.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don of the **Ever Ready** reports he has been having very good mixed bags of fish consisting mainly of a lot of big porgies. He is now switching over to bluefish. See ad for details.

Four Winds Tackle reports good bluefishing in the area of Eaton's Neck—buoys 13 and 11B. Fish ran from 8 to 14 pounds and were taken trolling red umbrella rigs. Blues have also been taken in Huntington Bay to Sand City to Huntington Inlet. Blues are also being taken on live bunker and chunks at the Sewaneke Yacht Club and in Cold Spring Harbor. Buoy 11B is also producing fish down deep on bunker chunks using drails from 10 to 14 pounds. Porgy fishing is super strong at buoy 13 off Eaton's, at the East Bar and at the LILCO Platform. These fish are running from 1½ to 2 pounds and are taking worms and clams. Blackfish up to 8 pounds are taking green crabs north of buoy 13 through 11B. Chet Senig took 15 blackfish to 6 pounds on fiddlers at buoy 11B on Monday. Fluke to 8 pounds are hitting sand eels, spearing, squid, smelts and snapper fillets at Diamond Pt. Snappers are getting bigger and can be caught in the harbors.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reported bluefish in certain times last week in Manhasset and Little Neck Bays. They were moving around quite a bit. One customer brought in 24 fish ranging from 12 to 14 pounds. Fluke are being taken at Lloyds Neck and one angler picked up a 9 pounder while fishing for blues. Lafayettes which resemble a porgy with stripes are being taken here and there. Eleven year old Michelle Misars, out fishing for snappers off a dock, landed a 17" striper instead.

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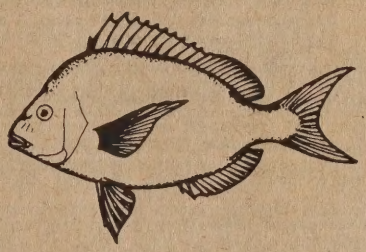

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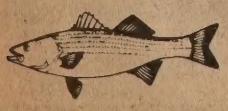

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NEW ROCHELLE

Capt. Pete Pearson of the **Klondike VI** reported excellent bottom fishing last week with lots of porgies for all fares. Capt. Pearson announced that he has sold the **Klondike VI** which will be put into service in Venezuela. A new boat is being constructed that will offer many conveniences, more comfort, more fishing room and will cruise at about 24 knots. Delivery is expected around March, 1978. During the fall Pete said he will be leasing another boat to drive for bluefish and blackfish in October and November. Specific dates will appear in The Fisherman when they become available.

GROTON CONN.

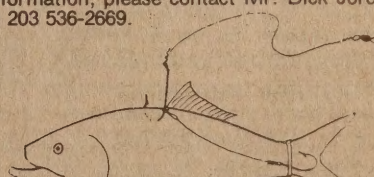
Capt. Brad Glas reports that the bluefishing is steadily improving. In addition to fishing the Race, the **Hel-Cat** has been doing well on the blues out in the ocean. The new leaders in the seasonal **Hel-Cat** contest is Ken Bubash of Groton with a 17 lb. 10 oz. chopper. A group of sailors from the Nuclear Sub Alexander Hamilton had the Hel-Cat chartered for a night trip last Thurs. They really hit into the blues. Some of the crew got so arm weary they had to quit fishing.

The **Hel-Cat** has again been chosen to serve as the official photo-press boat for the Americas Cup Races. She will be carrying some 85 members of the press, radio and television who will be covering this famous international sailing race. Starting Monday Sept. 12th, the Hel-Cat will be at Newport, R.I. until the races are over. The first yacht to win 4 races will be the winner of the Americas Cup Trophy. Hel-Cat fishermen should keep an eye on the cut race results because as soon as the races are over, Hel-Cat will be back again at Groton, Ct., bluefishing.

The Second Annual Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby sponsored by the town of Groton will begin on Sept. 5th, 1977 and run thru Oct. 30th,. 1977. This season, as last, there will be weekly, monthly and seasonal grand prizes.

Entrants must catch their fish aboard a boat that has sailed from the town of Groton, and three categories provide added chances to come up a prize winner. The categories include: The largest bluefish and largest striper caught aboard a private boat, open party boat or charterboat. The later category will also include entries from any rental boats.

Four official weigh stations have been designated thus far: Noank Ship Yard, Spicers Marina in both Noank and Groton and the Hel-Cat Dock. Entry blanks can be obtained at the time of weigh-in. For more information, please contact Mr. Dick Jordon at 203 536-2669.



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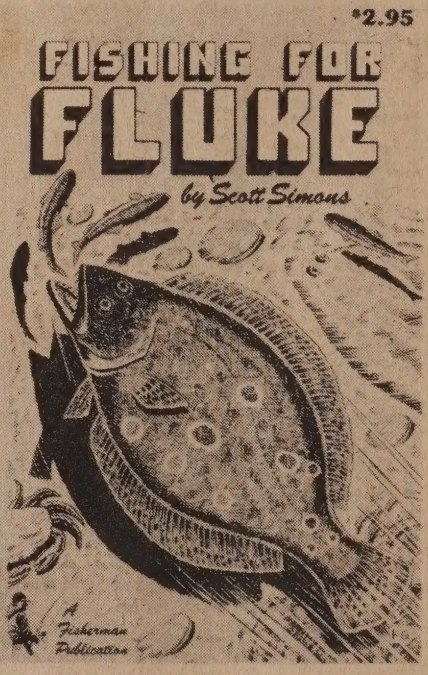

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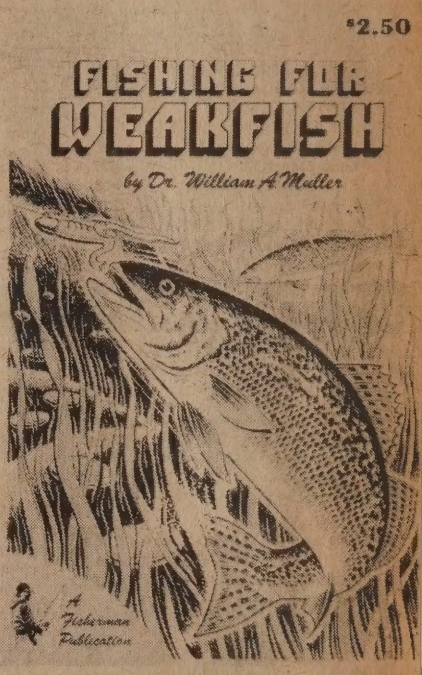

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR	4:33	4:57	5:29	5:56	5:17	5:39	6:27	6:40	8:46	8:54	8:12	8:30	4:27	4:50	9/8
FRI	5:23	5:44	6:20	6:43	6:13	6:31	7:12	7:25	9:34	9:39	9:02	9:21	5:27	5:44	9/9
SAT	6:09	6:30	7:07	7:26	7:03	7:17	7:54	8:07	10:11	10:16	9:50	10:06	6:18	6:34	9/10
SUN	6:54	7:12	7:48	8:07	7:45	7:58	8:33	8:47	10:40	10:48	10:32	10:49	7:03	7:17	9/11
MON	7:36	7:55	8:29	8:47	8:22	8:37	9:12	9:29	11:06	11:21	11:13	11:31	7:45	7:58	9/12
TUE	8:17	8:37	9:06	9:27	9:00	9:13	9:51	10:09	11:41	12:00	11:53	—	8:26	8:39	9/13
WED	9:02	9:21	9:48	10:07	9:38	9:54	10:31	10:54	—	12:20	12:12	12:34	9:07	9:21	9/14
THUR	9:45	10:06	10:30	10:48	10:21	10:37	11:14	11:38	12:41	1:02	12:54	1:15	9:49	10:04	9/15

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

9/3	6:27	7:31
9/8	6:32	7:22
9/13	6:38	7:14
9/18	6:43	7:05
9/23	6:48	6:56
9/28	6:53	6:47

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
9/13	9/20	9/27	9/5

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Major		PM Major	
THURS.	1:10	**7:45**	1:40	**8:10**
FRI.	1:55	**8:30**	2:25	**8:55**
SAT.	2:40	**9:10**	3:10	**9:35**
SUN.	3:20	**10:00**	3:50	**10:20**
MON.	4:10	**10:40**	4:35	**11:05**
TUES.	4:50	**11:30**	5:20	**11:50**
WED.	5:40	—	6:05	**12:20**
THURS.	6:30	**12:45**	7:00	**1:20**

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